



National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness

Benefits and Entitlements

May 2003

*Resources listed herein are a selection of materials available on this topic. Many are available from your local library or inter-library loan. Unless otherwise noted, all other materials are available from the National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness. Photocopying charges are \$.10 per page; make checks payable to **Policy Research Associates, Inc.** If you have difficulty locating any of the materials listed in this bibliography, please contact the Resource Center at the phone number or e-mail address below.*

Benefits and Entitlements

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- Authors:** Acs, G., Coe, N., Watson, K., Lerman, R.I.
- Title:** **Does Work Pay? An Analysis of the Work Incentives under TANF.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 1998. (Report: 54 pages)
- Abstract:** This report examines how state policy choices and current federal laws affect the incentives a family of three faces as it attempts to move from welfare to work in 12 states. The basic analyses describes how the income of a single parent with two children changes as she moves from not working to working at a part-time job at minimum wage, then to full-time work at minimum wage, and finally to a full-time job paying \$9/hour. In calculating income, the authors consider the family's earnings, its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) grant, the cash value of food stamps it receives, federal and state earned income tax credits, any other state tax credits, and all federal and tax liabilities. The impact of other public assistance programs and the effects of lifetime time limits are considered in subsequent analyses. The findings indicate that while the financial incentives for moving from no work to some work are quite strong, it is unclear whether TANF recipients perceive this. Furthermore, if TANF recipients are unaware of the Medicaid and child care benefits they will receive after leaving TANF, they may be unduly reluctant to leave TANF for work.
- Available From:** The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037, (877) 847-7377, pubs@ui.urban.org, www.urban.org.
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- Order #: 7866**
- Authors:** Allard, P.
- Title:** **Life Sentences: Denying Welfare Benefits to Women Convicted of Drug Offenses.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: The Sentencing Project, 2002. (Report: 30 pages)
- Abstract:** This report is the first national analysis documenting the impact of the lifetime welfare ban on women and their children. Presently, 42 states are enforcing the ban in full or in part. The author states that an estimated 92,000 women are affected by the ban in the 23 states for which she was able to obtain data. According to the author, since the application of the lifetime welfare ban only began in 1996, the number of women affected will substantially increase in the coming years (author).
- Available From:** The Sentencing Project, 514 Tenth Street, NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004, (202) 628-0871, www.sentencingproject.org.
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- Order #: 12050**
- Authors:** Anderson, T.L., Shannon, C., Schyb, I., Goldstein, P.
- Title:** **Welfare Reform and Housing: Assessing the Impact to Substance Abuse.**
- Source:** Journal of Drug Issues 32(1): 265-295, 2002. (Journal Article: 32 pages)
- Abstract:** This article studies the effects of terminating the addiction disability on the housing status of former addiction disability recipients, and explores how disruptions in living situations increased risks for drug and alcohol use, criminal participation and victimization. The authors utilize insights from both individualistic and structural theories of housing or homelessness. A qualitative analysis, featuring in-depth interviews with 101 nonrandomly selected former recipients, revealed that disability benefits promoted housing autonomy, successful cohabitation, and overall housing stability. The termination of benefits, at a time of diminishing social services and a housing market explosion, increased various types of homelessness for respondents and dependency of family and friends. Such negative living outcomes, in turn, further escalated the risk of drug and alcohol use, criminal participation and victimization. Individual-level factors also complicated the matter. Implications for research and policy are discussed (authors).
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- Order #: 11646**

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Order #: 11083

Authors: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

Title: **Recovery in the Community: Funding Mental Health Rehabilitative Approaches Under Medicaid.**

Source: Washington, DC: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 2001. (Report: 83 pages)

Abstract: This report describes how the states fund recovery-focused services in the community for people with mental illnesses. The report explains the federal rules governing community-based psychiatric rehabilitation and case management services for adults under Medicaid and the issues facing mental health systems using the federal-state program. Included are excerpts from states' service definitions and state-by-state tables showing services covered under managed care and fee-for-services plans.

Available From: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 1101 15th Street NW, Suite 1212, Washington, DC 20005-5002, www.bazelon.org.

Order #: 6424

Authors: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law.

Title: **A Dubious Bargain: What States' Implementation of the New Welfare Law Will Mean for Children with Mental or Emotional Disorders and Their Families.**

Source: Washington, DC: Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 1996. (Report: 50 pages)

Abstract: The authors describe how the 1996 federal welfare law will affect children with serious mental, emotional or behavioral disorders and highlight the opportunities and the dangers facing states in decisions they must now make about implementing the law. The report recommends ways state implementation could decrease the law's potentially negative impact on vulnerable children and families. Topics include: (1) overview; (2) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant; (3) children's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program; (4) Medicaid; and (5) other child-serving programs.

Available From: Publications Desk, Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, 1101 15th Street NW, #1212, Washington, DC, (202) 467-5730, www.bazelon.org. (COST: \$2.00 per issue paper)

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Order #: 10056

Authors: Blum, B.B., Francis, J.F.

Title: **Welfare Research Perspectives: Past, Present, and Future 2001 Edition.**

Source: New York, NY: Research Forum on Children, Families, and the New Federalism, 2001. (Working Paper: 24 pages)

Abstract: This is the third in a series of working papers designed to examine what has been learned since the enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, which is effective until fiscal year 2002. The fact that PRWORA must be reauthorized by 2002 makes it important to inventory what has been learned from past and current research and what information has yet to be developed. PRWORA ended Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), the federal entitlement to assistance for eligible needy families with children, and created the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant. The goals of TANF are to: (1) provide support to poor families so that children may be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives; (2) promote job preparation, work, and marriage in order to reduce families' receipt of government benefits; (3) prevent and reduce the incidence of nonmarital pregnancies; and (4) encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families. TANF, Medicaid, and Food Stamp reductions have produced substantial fiscal surpluses for most states, providing an opportunity to budget resources for new initiatives that can further advance the objectives of PRWORA. Of the \$55 billion available in total funds from 1997 to 2000, only \$3.18 billion remained unobligated. Although some states are using federal funds to create new kinds of programs and others are saving funds for use in a recession, many have still not made substantial changes to their welfare programs. More recently, there is evidence of a decline in state surplus funds. This paper takes a look at the past, present and concludes with suggestions for the future.

Available From: National Center for Children in Poverty, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, 154 Haven Ave., New York, NY 10032, (212) 304-7100, www.nccp.org.

Order #: 12052

Authors: Blum, B.B., Francis, J.F.

Title: **Welfare Research Perspectives Past, Present and Future: 2002 Edition.**

Source: New York, NY: National Center for Children in Poverty, 2002. (Unpublished Paper: 20 pages)

Abstract: This is the fourth in a series of working papers designed to examine what has been learned since the enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996. The authors examine research relevant to TANF reauthorization, unmet welfare research needs, and research methodology issues. The article states that the overall TANF caseload did increase from July to December of 2001, despite the figures published by the U.S Department of Health and Human Services in May of 2002. Changes in immigration law, fiscal surpluses for states, SSI benefits and health programs are also discussed (authors).

Available From: National Center for Children in Poverty, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, 154 Haven Ave., New York, NY 10032, (212) 304-7100, www.nccp.org.

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Order #: 8669

Authors: Bovbjerg, B.D.

Title: SSA Disability: Other Programs May Provide Lessons for Improving Return-to-Work Efforts.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 2000. (Testimony: 32 pages)

Abstract: This testimony of Barbara Bovbjerg, Associate Director of Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues at the Social Security Administration (SSA), concerns the practices of the private sector and other countries in helping people with severe disabilities return to work, with a focus on recipients of the SSA's Disability Insurance program and Supplemental Security Income program. The author examines how private sector and foreign systems encourage and facilitate return to work in three key areas: (1) the eligibility assessment process; (2) work incentives; and (3) staffing practices.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 11649

Authors: Buck, J.A., Kiesler, C.A., Ashman, T.D., Simpkins, C.G.

Title: Medicaid Limits on Support of Institutional Psychiatric Care.

Source: Administration and Policy in Mental Health 22(6): 573-580, 1995. (Journal Article: 8 pages)

Abstract: This article summarizes a Report of Congress concerning Medicaid limits on assistance for patients in institutions for mental diseases. There is little or no basis for changing this policy. Court judgments have found that the policy's application has been reasonable and consistent with congressional intent. Also, the general trend in the alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health (ADM) service system has been in outpatient or partial care, not institutional care. Research supports the conclusion that alternatives to IMD treatment are the most cost-effective. Finally, eliminating the IMD policy would be expensive, and simply substitute federal for state funding (authors).

Order #: 11121

Authors: Buck, J.A., Teich, J.L., Bae, J., Dilonardo, J.

Title: Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services in Ten State Medicaid Programs.

Source: Administration and Policy in Mental Health 28(3): 181-192, 2001. (Journal Article: 11 pages)

Abstract: This article examines program data for 1993 on Medicaid mental health and substance abuse services and expenditures which were developed from Health Care Financing Administration research files for 10 states. These data show that mental health and substance abuse service users are 7 to 13% of Medicaid enrollees. The percentage of Medicaid enrollees accounted for by mental health and substance abuse users increases with age, reaching a fifth of the 45-64 age group. Across the 10 states, mental health and substance abuse spending represents 11% of total Medicaid expenditures. When their expenditures for non-mental health and non-substance abuse services are also considered, mental health and substance abuse services users account for 28% of total Medicaid expenditures (authors).

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Order #: 2032

Authors: Burt, M.R.

Title: **The Income Side of Housing Affordability: Shifts in Household Income and Income Support Programs During the 1970s and 1980s.**

Source: In Jahiel, R.I. (ed.), *Homelessness: A Prevention-Oriented Approach*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1992. (Book Chapter: 11 pages)

Abstract: This chapter describes the national shifts during the 1970s and 1980s in the levels of poverty, household income, and major governmental sources of income support. The author documents changes in employment, unemployment, wage levels, and the minimum wage, and provides some information about unemployment compensation. The last part of the chapter describes changes in major "safety net" income benefit programs -- Supplemental Security Income (SSI); Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); and the Food Stamp Program. The author concludes that as a cumulative result of many of these changes between 1970 and 1989, the resources available to many poor households decreased, and that has led to increasing difficulties in affording housing (author).

Order #: 6421

Authors: Case-Corcoran, K.

Title: **New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness' Guide to Federal Welfare Reform.**

Source: Albany, NY: New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness, October 1996. (Guide: 35 pages)

Abstract: This guide outlines provisions of the 1996 federal welfare law; its impact on New York State; what New Yorkers need to do to ensure a fair welfare system in New York State; and an action plan for interested parties who want to actively participate in the implementation process. Welfare funding mechanisms examined include: block grants for temporary assistance to needy families (TANF); child care; child support enforcement; links between TANF and Medicaid; and food and nutrition programs. Other topics include: work requirements; impact on New York's health care facilities; privatization; administration; implications for a New York state constitutional convention; and the New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness action plan.

Available From: New Yorkers for Fiscal Fairness, 212 Great Oaks Boulevard, Albany, NY 12203, (518) 869-9719.

Order #: 7309

Authors: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Title: **1998 Earned Income Credit Campaign Kit.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 1997. (Information Packet: 68 pages)

Abstract: This kit provides information about the Earned Income Credit Campaign. The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a federal tax benefit for working people who earn low or moderate incomes, and can be especially vital to homeless workers, or those who were formerly homeless. Other notes of interest include: families whose earnings are too small to have paid federal income taxes can receive the EIC; workers are eligible to receive the EIC retroactively for up to three years; and very low-income workers without children may be eligible for a small EIC. This kit contains a general fact sheet, tax forms, flyers, posters, and an outreach campaign strategy guide. The EIC kit contains Spanish versions of key items, and other translations are available (authors).

Available From: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002. (202) 408-1080, (COST: \$3.00)

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Order #: 10973

Authors: Center On Budget and Policy Priorities.

Title: An Introduction to TANF.

Source: Washington, DC: Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, 2002. (Report: 24 pages)

Abstract: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is a block grant created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The TANF block grant replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, which provided cash welfare to poor families with children since 1935. This report provides an introduction to TANF, its purposes and methods of implementation. The law that created the TANF block grant expires at the end of the fiscal year 2002 (September 30, 2002). Congress will consider legislation in 2002 to reauthorize the program (authors).

Available From: Center On Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, www.cbpp.org/tanfseries.htm.

Order #: 6001

Authors: Clark, R.E.

Title: Employment and Security (Response to 'The Economic Advancement of the Mentally Ill in the Community: 2. Economic Choices and Disincentives' by R. Warner and P. Polak).

Source: Community Mental Health Journal 31(5): 492-498, 1995. (Journal Article: 7 pages)

Abstract: The author further examines the issue of how people with mental disorders can improve their economic condition. The discussion is focused on restructuring social insurance programs to encourage gainful employment. The author responds to the theory that a combination of low wage-earning potential and faulty welfare policies make work less attractive than it might be for people with mental illness thus limiting their economic advancement. The idea of encouraging work by guaranteed work, wage subsidies, and graduated benefit reduction is discussed.

Order #: 1679

Authors: Coalition of Voluntary Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Agencies.

Title: Low Demand Residence Discussion Paper.

Source: New York, NY: The Coalition of Voluntary Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Agencies, Inc., 1989. (Report: 9 pages)

Abstract: A Low Demand Residence Work Group was organized through the efforts of several providers in New York State, representing both homeless mentally ill service providers and community residence providers. This discussion paper reflects the information, ideas, and recommendations which emerged from a series of work group meetings. The work group found that the low demand residence can become an important element of a comprehensive system of care for the homeless mentally ill. Whether serving individuals from the street, a shelter, or a drop-in center, low demand residence can offer a safe housing environment which tolerates a wide range of behavior. The proposed program model provides essential services in a non-threatening manner which will eventually lead to the engagement of the client in an individualized program of psychosocial rehabilitation. Provision of services on-site affords a higher degree of accessibility and availability than might otherwise be possible, and maximizes opportunities for engagement (authors).

Available From: The Coalition of Voluntary Mental Health Agencies, Inc., 90 Broad Street, 8th floor, New York, NY 10004, (212) 742-1600, www.cvmha.org.

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Order #: 7209

Authors: Cohen, C.I.

Title: The Impact of Welfare Reform as Perceived by Users of Mental Health Services in New York City.

Source: Psychiatric Services 48(12): 1589-1591, 1997. (Journal Article: 4 pages)

Abstract: This article discusses a study designed to assess the impact, if any, of new welfare laws on users of mental health services. During a five week period in October and November 1996 at an outpatient psychiatric clinic in Brooklyn, a total of 118 patients completed a 12-item questionnaire about the impact of the new federal welfare legislation. A majority of respondents were worried about the new law and believed it would worsen their mental symptoms, well being, and the quality of life in their neighborhood. The results suggest that organized psychiatry and individual psychiatrists should become more involved in activities to diminish the impact of welfare legislation on patients and their families (author).

Order #: 7778

Authors: Conrad, K.J., Matters, M.D., Hanrahan, P., Luchins, D.J., Savage, C., Daugherty, B., Shinderman, M.

Title: Representative Payee for Individuals with Severe Mental Illness at Community Counseling Centers of Chicago.

Source: Alcohol Treatment Quarterly 17(1/2): 169-186, 1999. (Journal Article: 18 pages)

Abstract: This article describes a representative payee (RP) program at Community Counseling Center of Chicago. This program features a mental health agency bank that works with clients and case managers (CMs) to ensure the financial stability of clients. When an agency develops a banking system to serve as the RP in cooperation with case managers, this has the advantage of linking therapeutic services with clients' basic needs, such as payment of rent and other bills. It also relieves the CM of monetary demands from clients that can distort the clinical relationship. The authors discuss the advantages and ongoing challenges of an agency RP.

Order #: 11686

Authors: Cowal, K., Shinn, M., Weitzman, B.C., Stojanovic, D., Labay, L.

Title: Mother-Child Separations Among Homeless and Housed Families Receiving Public Assistance in New York City.

Source: American Journal of Community Psychology 30 (5): 711-730, 2002. (Journal Article: 20 pages)

Abstract: This article documents the incidence, characteristics, and predictors of separations of children from mothers in 543 poor families receiving public assistance, 251 of whom had experienced homelessness during the previous 5 years. A total of 249 children were separated from 110 homeless families and 34 children from 23 housed families. Maternal drug dependence, domestic violence, and institutionalization predicted separations, but homelessness was the most important predictor. The authors infer that policies regarding child welfare and substance abuse treatment should be changed to reduce unnecessary placements (authors).

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- Authors:** Dolbeare, C.N., Crowley, S. **Order #: 11546**
- Title:** **Changing Priorities: The Federal Budget and Housing Assistance 1976-2007.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2002. (Report: 22 pages)
- Abstract:** This report provides an overview of actual budget trends from fiscal year 1976 through fiscal year 2000 and estimated changes from 2001 through 2006, as measured in inflation-adjusted dollars. Despite increases in funding for HUD programs for the last three years, an overview of budget trends shows that this nation's investment in HUD and low income housing programs has declined dramatically during the last quarter century. The analysis sets HUD's budget as well as the low income housing assistance budget category in the context of the total federal budget, covering both budget authority, or the authorized amount of obligations in each year regardless of when the spending occurs, and outlays, or actual spending in each year. It then looks at subsidized housing as a proportion of HUD budget authority, showing separately the impact of renewing expiring contracts. For the years 1977-2000, the additional commitments for HUD-subsidized units is shown. Finally, spending trends for a number of major HUD programs are addressed (authors).
- Available From:** National Low Income Housing Coalition, 1012 Fourteenth Street NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 662-1530, info@nlihc.org, www.nlihc.org/pubs/changingpriorities.pdf
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- Authors:** Edin, K., Lein, L. **Order #: 7199**
- Title:** **Making Ends Meet: How Single Mothers Survive Welfare and Low-Wage Work.**
- Source:** New York, NY: Russell Sage Foundation, 1997. (Book: 305 pages)
- Abstract:** Over a six-year period, the authors interviewed almost 400 welfare and low-income single mothers in Chicago, Charleston, San Antonio, Boston, and rural Minnesota. This book provides evidence that in the present labor market, unskilled single mothers who hold jobs are frequently worse off than those on welfare, and that neither welfare nor low-wage employment alone will support a family at subsistent levels. Specific subjects discussed include: making ends meet on a welfare check; why don't welfare-reliant mothers go to work; survival strategies; differences among mothers; and the choice between welfare and work. The authors conclude that if the country's efforts to improve the self-sufficiency of female-headed families are to succeed, reformers must move beyond the myths of welfare dependency and deal with the realities of the American labor market, the lack of affordable health insurance and child care for the working poor (authors).
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- Authors:** Ewalt, P.L., Mulroy, E.A. **Order #: 6660**
- Title:** **Locked Out: Welfare Reform, Housing Reform, and the Fate of Affordable Housing.**
- Source:** Social Work 42(1): 5-6, 1997. (Journal Article: 2 pages)
- Abstract:** This editorial contends that despite optimistic projections by state government officials, housing is in short supply even for working poor people who already have full-time jobs. The author explains that despite welfare reform, two questions still remain: (1) will there be enough entry-level jobs to accommodate former public assistance recipients in the job market?; and (2) where will people live when full-time work does not enable them to pay for housing? The authors contend as fundamental as housing is to education, health, and the ability to produce income, the issue of affordable housing requires increased analysis and action.

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Order #: 11678

Authors: Fawcett, J.

Title: Social Security Disability and the Mentally Ill: Not so "Ho Hum!"

Source: Psychiatric Annals 32(5): 272, 2002. (Journal Article: 1 pages)

Abstract: This article describes the importance of disability evaluation within the psychiatric field. The author attests to realizing that these evaluations broaden one's awareness to various important aspects of what factors are important for judgments and evaluations concerning the criteria for eligibility. The author also notes the enormous social ramifications of the issue of social security disability and how evaluations contribute (author).

Order #: 11683

Authors: Frisman, L.K., Rosenheck, R.

Title: The Impact of Disability Payments on Persons with Addictive Disorders.

Source: Psychiatric Annals 32(5): 303-307, 2002. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This article addresses the issues of substance abuse and disability eligibility. Many patients with mental illness have comorbid substance abuse/dependence disorders. Deciphering to what extent work impairments are related to a primary psychiatric disorder as opposed to a substance use disorder can sometimes be difficult. Recent data examining disability awards and homelessness among patients with substance use disorders are highlighted (authors).

Order #: 6716

Authors: Frisman, L.K., Rosenheck, R.

Title: The Relationship of Public Support Payments to Substance Abuse Among Homeless Veterans With Mental Illness.

Source: Psychiatric Services 48(6): 792-795, 1997. (Journal Article: 4 pages)

Abstract: A suspicion that disability payments may exacerbate substance use among persons with chemical addictions recently led Congress to limit federal disability entitlements of applicants whose disability status is related to substance abuse, even if they have another serious mental disorder. This study empirically explored the relationship between receipt of disability payments and substance use among homeless mentally ill veterans. The study sample included 2,474 homeless veterans with a current diagnosis of schizophrenia and a substance abuse or dependence disorder who were assessed in a community outreach program sponsored by the Department of Veterans Affairs. After adjustment for other relevant factors, receipt of disability payments showed no significant relationship to the number of days of substance use a month, even among frequent users of alcohol and drugs. Findings about substance use among the homeless veterans with serious mental disorders in this study provide no support for the assertion that disability payments exacerbate substance use (authors).

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- Authors:** Goldman, H.H., Gattozzi, A.A. **Order #: 506**
- Title:** **Murder in the Cathedral Revisited: President Reagan and the Mentally Disabled.**
- Source:** Hospital and Community Psychiatry 39(3): 505-509 1988. (Journal Article: 5 pages)
- Abstract:** A key objective of the Reagan administration when it took office in 1981 was to decrease domestic spending. Intending to offer the new administration "a little bit of a present," employees in the General Accounting Office, an arm of Congress, identified ineligible Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) beneficiaries as a possible source of billions of dollars of savings annually. Subsequently, the administration's Office of Management and Budget instructed the Social Security Administration to begin, on an accelerated schedule, eligibility reviews authorized by the Social Security Amendments of 1980. One-fourth of the 130,500 beneficiaries dropped from the rolls during the first full year of the reviews were mentally impaired, although the mentally impaired constituted only one-ninth of SSDI beneficiaries. The reaction by mental health advocacy groups, Congress, and the courts turned "a little bit of a present" into a major problem for the administration, and the various components of government that had consorted on a misguided policy began to make amends. The experience offers useful insights for future policymaking.
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- Authors:** Goldman, H.H., Gattozzi, A.A. **Order #: 1513**
- Title:** **Balance of Powers: Social Security and the Mentally Disabled, 1980-1985.**
- Source:** The Milbank Quarterly 66(3): 531-551, 1988. (Journal Article: 21 pages)
- Abstract:** The authors examine the balance of powers among the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of government in the making of social policy for the mentally disabled and consider the role played by research in achieving balance. They report on the incremental steps taken to restore income support for persons with mental disabilities who lost Social Security benefits during the Reagan Administration's eligibility review that resulted in the termination of benefits for thousands of mentally disabled persons.
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- Authors:** Government Law Center and Homeless & Travelers Aid Society of the Capital District. **Order #: 6222**
- Title:** **The Changing Face of Homelessness and the Impact of Welfare Reform.**
- Source:** Albany, NY: Albany Law School, 1997. (Conference Summary: 232 pages)
- Abstract:** In January 1997, a conference was held on the issues surrounding homelessness in light of welfare reform. This conference brought together attorneys, legislators, policy makers, health care providers, and advocates to examine welfare changes and the impact welfare reform will have on America's homeless population on the national, state and local levels.
- Available From:** The Government Law Center, 80 New Scotland Avenue, Albany, NY 12208, (518) 445-2329.

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- Authors:** Greenberg, M. **Order #: 11099**
- Title:** **How are TANF Funds Being Used? The Story in Fiscal Year 2000.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, 2001. (Report: 11 pages)
- Abstract:** As welfare caseloads have declined, states have been able to redirect Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds to an array of other uses. This document draws from federal reporting by states to describe how states used federal TANF funds and met their maintenance of effort (MOE) obligations in FY 2000. While data from FY 2000 is the most recent available federal data, it should be noted that it only describes state spending through September 30, 2000, and individual state circumstances may have changed substantially since then (authors).
- Available From:** Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, www.clasp.org.
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- Authors:** Gueron, J.M. **Order #: 7205**
- Title:** **Learning about Welfare Reform: Lessons from State Based Evaluations.**
- Source:** New Directions for Evaluation 76: 79-94, 1997. (Journal Article: 16 pages)
- Abstract:** This article summarizes the origins, context, and main themes of many of the major studies on work-focused welfare reforms conducted in the past 20 years. The article also looks ahead at some of the likely challenges and opportunities for further evaluations. The author describes the evaluations of welfare reform experiments conducted by the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation and also includes a number of lessons learned, methods, and results. The author states that in the past two decades a solid body of research about the effectiveness of welfare reform has been produced, but that this reform continues to change. The author concludes that evaluators should continue to develop research strategies so that they may respond to new policies and provide accurate and vigorous program evaluations.
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- Authors:** Handler, J.F. **Order #: 1989**
- Title:** **The Modern Pauper: The Homeless in Welfare History.**
- Source:** In Robertson, M. J. and Greenblatt, M. (eds.), Homelessness: A National Perspective. New York, NY: Plenum Press, 1992. (Book Chapter: 12 pages)
- Abstract:** This chapter traces the development of public assistance and welfare programs in the United States. The author outlines the distinction used as a basic divider of the poor- those deserving of assistance, and those undeserving. The poor deserving assistance include children, blind people, single mothers, the aged and the disabled. These fit into deserving categories and have federal programs to assist them. The author discusses state-funded general relief for those who do not fit into these categories. Barriers to accessing assistance for the homeless are discussed.

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Order #: 12101

Authors: Homes for the Homeless.

Title: A Welfare Reform-Homelessness-Foster Care Connection? The Story of "Lag Families" and "Limbo Children" in San Diego.

Source: New York, NY: Homes for the Homeless, 1999. (Report: 4 pages)

Abstract: This report discusses the effect of time limits, declining rolls and workfare changes of the welfare system effect children, the largest segment of welfare recipients. The authors state that in San Diego, California, welfare rolls have dropped by roughly eighteen percent since reforms were first implemented in January of 1998, but family homelessness has soared. The report asserts that three times as many families sought shelter in 1999 than the year before; as a result, homeless families with children are sleeping in shelter lobbies and on office floors. The authors say that an alarming number of parents are reporting that their children are being placed in foster care because of welfare reform, thus suggesting that welfare reform may be placing children's lives in limbo (authors).

Available From: Homes for the Homeless, Institute for Children and Poverty, 36 Cooper Square, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10003, (212) 529-5252, www.homesforthehomeless.com.

Order #: 7227

Authors: Housing Assistance Council.

Title: Rural Housing and Welfare Reform: HAC's 1997 Report on the State of the Nation's Rural Housing.

Source: Washington, DC: Housing Assistance Council, 1997. (Report: 70 pages)

Abstract: The second in a series of State of the Nation's Rural Housing reports by the Housing Assistance Council, this report has two major parts. The first presents data on all rural residents and their housing, and compares them to urban and suburban residents. The second focuses on rural welfare recipients, particularly on their housing conditions. The report relies primarily on micro data released in 1997 from the 1995 American Housing Survey, conducted every two years for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The report concludes that it is unlikely that welfare reform will help poor rural Americans improve their lives (author).

Available From: Housing Assistance Council, 1025 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 606, Washington, DC 20005. (202) 842-8600. (COST: \$6.00)

Order #: 1942

Authors: Hoven, C. W., Moore, R. E., Struening, E. L., Udoff, A.

Title: Entitlements, Knowledge of Services and Service Needs Amongst Homeless Men with Substance Use Problems.

Source: Community Psychologist 26(2): 38-40, 1993. (Journal Article: 3 pages)

Abstract: In this study, based upon a sample of 848 male New York City shelter residents, substance use problems, entitlement coverage and knowledge of services were identified as predictors of treatment need. The findings indicate that homeless adults with alcohol and drug use problems constitute a major subgroup of the homeless population who require high levels of health care, education about health services and substance use services in addition to permanent housing (authors).

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 9908

Authors: Jacobs, U., Newman, G.H., Burns, J.C.

Title: **The Homeless Assessment Program: A Service Training Model for Providing Disability Evaluations for Homeless, Mentally Ill Individuals.**

Source: Professional Psychology: Research and Practice 32(3): 319-323, 2001. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This article introduces a model of providing psychological assessments for homeless, mentally ill individuals by supervised student examiners; a model that could be replicated by other psychologists and training institutions. The authors agree that there may be a large number of adults who are homeless and who suffer from disabling mental conditions but who are not properly diagnosed and, therefore, do not qualify for benefits. Many of the nation's people who are homeless suffer from unrecognized mental illness and do not have access to the kind of disability benefits they would be entitled to when properly assessed. The current system of disability evaluations for Social Security income claims is frequently inadequate and leaves these individuals without any source of income, health insurance, and mental health treatment. The authors propose that the model presented can help to fill a gap in services and may serve as a model of socially relevant clinical training (authors).

Order #: 6258

Authors: Jarrett, R.L.

Title: **Welfare Stigma Among Low-Income, African American Single Mothers.**

Source: Family Relations 45: 368-374, 1996. (Journal Article: 7 pages)

Abstract: This article conceptualizes the stigmatization process that is associated with the use of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) programs. A symbolic interactionist perspective that delineates the dynamics of stigma is used to frame the experiences of impoverished African American women who participate in such programs. Findings from a series of qualitative focus group interviews are used to assess current discussions of stigma and to inform efforts to reduce stigma (author).

Order #: 11947

Authors: Jayakody, R., Danziger, S., Pollack, H.

Title: **Welfare Reform, Substance Use, and Mental Health.**

Source: Journal of Health Politics, Policy, and Law 25(4): 623-651, 2000. (Journal Article: 28 pages)

Abstract: This article focuses on substance abuse and mental health problems among single mothers and examines their relationship to welfare receipt. The authors analyze data from the 1994 and 1995 National Household Survey of Drug Abuse (NHSDA), and find that 19 percent of welfare recipients meet the criteria for a DSM-III-R psychiatric diagnosis. About the same percentage have used illicit drugs during the previous year. Logistic regression results indicate that mental and behavioral health problems are significant barriers to self-sufficiency that are increasingly important in this era of time-limited benefits (authors).

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 8898

Authors: Karoly, L.A., Klerman, J.A., Rogowski, J.A.

Title: Impacts of the 1996 Welfare Reform Changes to the SSI Program.

Source: Santa Monica, CA: Rand Corporation, 2000. (Report: 27 pages)

Abstract: This report reviews what is known about the impact of the 1996 welfare legislation on the SSI program. It begins by providing background on the SSI programs and the 1996 reforms. It then reviews the evidence on the effects of Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) on the SSI program and the effects of the other PRWORA reforms on the SSI program. It concludes with a discussion of the implications of these changes for PRWORA reauthorization.

Available From: Welfare Information Network, 1401 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 587-1000, www.welfareinfo.org/HC_ssi.asp.

Order #: 1187

Authors: Koyanagi, C., Goldman, H.H.

Title: The Quiet Success of the National Plan for the Chronically Mentally Ill.

Source: Hospital and Community Psychiatry 42(9): 899-905, 1991. (Journal Article: 7 pages)

Abstract: In 1978 the President's Commission on Mental Health called for a national plan for the care of persons with chronic mental illness. The plan was completed and released in 1980. This paper reexamines the recommendations of the national plan, assesses the strategies of mental health advocates for reform of the federal government's mainstream programs (i.e., Medicaid, Medicare, SSI, and SSDI), and analyzes the implementation of these recommendations.

Order #: 11993

Authors: Landry, L.

Title: An Advocate's Guide to Surviving the SSI System: Financial and Other Nondisability Criteria.

Source: Boston, MA: Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Inc., 2000. (Book: 173 pages)

Abstract: This is the first of three volumes revising and updating "An Advocate's Guide to Surviving the SSI System" (1985). Two other volumes will follow. Volume II will cover the applications and appeals process. Volume III will cover the disability standards and evaluation issues. These volumes are designed primarily for use by advocates and attorneys who help individuals establish or maintain SSI eligibility. The focus is on eligibility for SSI disability benefits, although information is also included about SSI benefits eligibility on the basis of age and blindness. Since many SSI disability benefits recipients also receive Social Security Disability Insurance benefits, the authors have tried to point out important differences in the two programs (authors).

Available From: Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education, Inc., 10 Winter Place, Boston, MA 02108, (617)-482-2205, www.mcle.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 8922

Authors: Lennon, M.C., Blome, J., English, K.

Title: Depression and Low-Income Women: Challenges to TANF and Welfare-to-Work Policies and Programs Executive Summary.

Source: New York, NY: National Center for Children in Poverty, 2001. (Executive Summary: 6 pages)

Abstract: This document summarizes a report that reviews the literature on the prevalence, treatment, and consequences of depression in low-income women, highlighting the relationship of depression to welfare and employment. Recent changes in welfare policy in the U.S., including the five-year lifetime limit on assistance and the requirement that recipients obtain jobs after two years of continuous support, have increased concerns about depressions and other problems facing many women on welfare. The authors state that the research findings reviewed here have a range of implications for research and for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) and welfare-to-work policies and programs (authors).

Available From: National Center for Children in Poverty, 215 W. 125th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10027, (646) 284-9600, <http://nccp.org>.

Order #: 11680

Authors: Leo, R.J.

Title: Social Security Disability and the Mentally Ill: Changes in the Adjudication Process and Treating Source Information Requirements.

Source: Psychiatric Annals 32(5): 284-292, 2002. (Journal Article: 9 pages)

Abstract: This article describes the distinction between clinical and legal concepts of disability. Clinically, all mental impairments by definition produce functional impairments. From a legal standpoint, all mental illnesses do not necessarily result in disability. Increasingly, the assessment of disability eligibility is based on determinations of vocational factors and may be construed as subjective. The author suggests work rehabilitation for patients seeking disability, and asserts that the goal of any effective treatment program must address issues associated with improving the patient's functional status, independent functioning, autonomy and quality of life (author).

Order #: 11681

Authors: Leo, R.J.

Title: Social Security Disability and Psychiatric Illness.

Source: Psychiatric Annals 32(5): 279-280, 2002. (Journal Article: 2 pages)

Abstract: This article summarizes the contents of four articles within the Social Security Disability series of Psychiatric Annals for May 2002. In this issue, general information about the SSA adjudication process is provided, to effectively represent the nature and impact of psychiatric disturbances affecting patients. This information is presented to heighten awareness to the need for advocacy efforts to protect psychiatric patients who might otherwise be unable to advocate for themselves (author).

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11479

Authors: Lichter, D.T., Crowley, M.L.

Title: **Poverty in America: Beyond Welfare Reform.**

Source: Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau, 2002. (Report: 36 pages)

Abstract: This report is published by the Population Reference Bureau. The report provides an overview of poverty in the U.S., examines the relationship between poverty and welfare and explores the demographics of poor Americans, poverty dynamics and the "income gap" in the U.S. It explains that while poverty rates have declined sharply for many population groups, the income gap between rich and poor has widened.

Available From: Population Reference Bureau, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20009-5728, (800) 877-9881, www.prb.org.

Order #: 7049

Authors: Livesey, M. (ed.).

Title: **The Source: A Public Benefits Resource Manual.**

Source: New York, NY: New York City Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Alcoholism Services and Hunter College School of Social Work, 1997. (Manual: 351 pages)

Abstract: This manual serves as a public benefits and services field manual for social service workers in the New York City area. It is designed to provide the latest information on government policies, benefits and programs central to vulnerable populations. Information is included on general information and resources, Social Security and Medicare, SSI and Medicaid, Public Assistance and Food Stamps, Heat and Housing, Education, Employment and Immigration, AIDS, Homelessness, Substance Abuse, and Ex-Offenders.

Available From: The Research Foundation, CUNY, Hunter College School of Social Work, 129 East 79th Street, New York, NY 10021, (212) 452-7105, <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork>. (COST: \$30.00)

Order #: 11997

Authors: Loprest, P.

Title: **Who Returns to Welfare?**

Source: Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 2002. (Report: 8 pages)

Abstract: This report examines how often clients leave and return to welfare, which welfare leavers are the most likely to return, and the role of transitional supports in limiting returns. Drawing primarily on data from the National Survey of America's Families, the analysis examines families that left welfare for at least one month in the 1997-99 period and were back on welfare at the time of the 1999 survey. The results show that, on average, more than a fifth of families leaving welfare returned. Many of these returning recipients had originally left assistance for work. The high rates of movement on and off welfare suggest that many TANF leavers need greater help once they stop receiving benefits. One approach is for welfare offices to broaden their client base to include individuals who have recently left welfare, especially those with characteristics associated with higher return rates (author).

Available From: The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037, (202) 833-7200, www.urban.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7731

Authors: Luchins, D.J., Hanrahan, P., Conrad, K.J., Savage, C., Matters, M.D., Shinderman, M.

Title: **An Agency-Based Representative Payee Program and Improved Community Tenure of Persons with Mental Illness.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 49(9): 1218-1222, 1998. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This article examined a representative payee program operated by a community mental health center to determine the criteria used by clinicians and case managers to refer clients to the program and to learn whether participation in the program was associated with reductions in hospitalization. The study included 56 individuals with severe mental illness who were enrolled in the representative payee program at Community Counseling Centers of Chicago for one year and who also had received services from the agency for at least one year before enrollment. The most common criteria for enrollment in the representative payee program were comorbid substance abuse or dependence (49%), a history of homelessness (33%), and frequent hospitalizations (32%). During the year of participation in the payee program, the mean number of days spent in state hospitals decreased markedly when compared to the previous year, from 68 days to seven days. The results suggest that the representative payee program is quite effective in reducing hospital stays (authors).

Order #: 10189

Authors: MacDonald-Wilson, K.L.

Title: **Financial Empowerment for People With Psychiatric Disabilities: What You Need to Know about Social Security Work Initiatives.**

Source: Boston, MA: Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, 2001. (Manual: 178 pages)

Abstract: This manual is intended to make work incentives understandable and usable for disability recipients with psychiatric disabilities and the people who work with them. Each work incentive is defined, an example shown, and a list of steps presented on how to use the work incentive. Worksheets are included to guide learners in calculating the work incentives. Five case studies are included to assist learners in practicing applying the skills and knowledge presented. An answer key is included in the back for solutions to case studies. Enough information is provided to make the work incentives understandable and useable, but not so much that the information is overwhelming. Even armed with this knowledge, it is always recommended that consumers, families, and professionals must advocate with Social Security to have their work incentives approved in a timely and accurate manner.

Available From: Reprints, Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation, 940 Commonwealth Avenue West, Boston, MA 02215, (617) 353-3549, <http://www.bu.edu/cpr/>. COST: \$29.00 (includes shipping).

Order #: 7503

Authors: Mason, M.

Title: **Without a Net: A Study of Early Impacts of Supplemental Security Income Benefits Elimination for Persons with Disabilities Due to Drug and Alcohol Abuse in Cook County, Illinois. Impact, Policy Alternatives, and Action Steps.**

Source: Chicago, IL: Mid-America Institute on Poverty Research and Policy Report; The SSI Coalition for a Responsible Safety Net, 1998. (Report: 25 pages)

Abstract: This report documents the impacts of federal legislation that eliminated Supplemental Security Income benefits for those disabled by drug and alcohol abuse. The report contains information on the impact of these reforms in the Chicago area. The results of this study indicate that the federal policy change has had significant impact at the state and local level and on the lives of former beneficiaries. In particular, there has been increased need for, and pressure on, county and municipal governments to provide emergency services to this population. The authors discuss the results and provide recommendations for policy changes.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11948

Authors: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

Title: Addressing Mental Health Problems Among TANF Recipients: A Guide for Program Administrators.

Source: Princeton, NJ: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., 2000. (Report: 44 pages)

Abstract: This report examines mental health conditions among welfare recipients to provide an overview of common conditions and the mental health system, discuss the types and prevalence of certain disorders, and offer strategies for linking recipients with treatment and designing employment services to move them into work (authors).

Available From: Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., P.O. Box 2393, Princeton, NJ 08543-2393, (609) 799-3535, <http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/PDFs/addressmental.pdf>

Order #: 11338

Authors: Matrix Research Institute.

Title: Employment Brochure Series on Mental Illness and Work.

Source: Philadelphia, PA: Matrix Research Institute, 2001. (Brochure: 125 pages)

Abstract: This Brochure Series is about psychiatric disabilities and work. It is an innovative vocational rehabilitation resource which places emphasis on the information-gathering and decision-making processes that people with psychiatric disabilities must go through as they consider work, seek and maintain employment, and balance work with other life priorities. In addition, the Brochure Series provides practical, "how-to" information about Social Security benefits, and job seeking activities. Readers of the Brochure Series are encouraged to take charge of their own rehabilitation process, while seeking and using the support of service providers, family members and peers. In addition, the Brochure Series is a resource that can be used directly by a person with a psychiatric disability, and has the potential to be an excellent adjunct to vocational rehabilitation services. It can be used independently of, before or after other services, and may be able to provide information to persons not currently enrolled in existing service systems. A Facilitator's Guide has also been developed for those who will be introducing work issues, providing employment supports and organizing support groups (authors).

Available From: Matrix Research Institute, 1001 Briggs Road, Suite 250A, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, (856) 234-4300, www.matrixresearch.com.

Order #: 11348

Authors: Matrix Research Institute.

Title: Employment Brochure Series on Mental Illness and Work: SSI Work Incentives.

Source: Philadelphia, PA: Matrix Research Institute, 2001. (Brochure: 8 pages)

Abstract: Sometimes people with psychiatric disabilities who receive SSI are afraid to work because they believe that they will lose their check or their medical benefits. The truth is that many people work and continue to receive all or part of their SSI benefits. This brochure explains in detail exactly how the SSI Work Incentive programs work, so that consumers can make well-informed decisions about what combination of work and SSI will be best. The brochure includes information about how PASS (Plans for Achieving Self-Support) and IRWE (Impairment Related Work Expenses) can be used, how to keep track of different kinds of income, and tips for record keeping and budgeting. This Brochure Series is designed to provide information to help people with psychiatric disabilities determine whether working is right for them, and to help them be successful if they do decide to work (authors).

Available From: Matrix Research Institute, 1001 Briggs Road, Suite 250A, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, (856) 234-4300, www.matrixresearch.com.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11349

Authors: Matrix Research Institute.

Title: Employment Brochure Series on Mental Illness and Work: SSDI Work Incentives

Source: Philadelphia, PA: Matrix Research Institute, 2001. (Brochure: 8 pages)

Abstract: Social Security has Work Incentive programs that can apply to SSDI recipients. This brochure contains detailed information about the Trial Work Period, what types of income count, how the Extended Period of Eligibility works, how PASS and IRWE can be used and tips for record keeping and that consumers can use to make informed decisions about working, and make the best possible use of the benefits to which they are entitled. This Brochure Series is designed to provide information to help people with psychiatric disabilities determine whether working is right for them, and to help them be successful if they do decide to work (authors).

Available From: Matrix Research Institute, 1001 Briggs Road, Suite 250A, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, (856) 234-4300, www.matrixresearch.com.

Order #: 10187

Authors: McAlees, D.C.

Title: Effective Strategies to Improve the Employment of SSI/SSDI Participants.

Source: Menomonie, WI: Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute, 2000. (Manual: 104 pages)

Abstract: This document is for administrators, managers, rehabilitation counselors, and other professionals who support the employment of SSDI beneficiaries and SSI recipients with disabilities. Persons served by the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) program who are receiving these benefits face unique challenges as they plan for, engage in, and maintain employment. This document offers strategies for VR programs to improve the chances for these persons to achieve employment, and introduces a new way of thinking about service delivery for SSI/SSDI beneficiaries (authors).

Available From: Stout Vocational Rehabilitation Institute, (715) 232 1379, <http://www.cec.uwstout.edu>.

Order #: 7798

Authors: McKee, P.

Title: An Advocate's In-Depth Guide to Social Security and SSI Disability Benefits and Procedures.

Source: Seattle, WA: Theiler, Douglas, Drachler & McKee, 1998. (Guide: 86 pages)

Abstract: These materials were presented in conjunction with a presentation May 1, 1998 at the National HCH Conference in St. Louis, Mo. Topics include: (1) basic facts and overview of SSA and SSI; (2) social security applications and administrative process; (3) the "secret" world of the social security lawyer; (4) medical providers' questions; and (5) social security medical writing guide. Also included are examples of "bad" and "model" letters, mental health "listing of impairments" (adult), and psychiatric review technique form.

Available From: Theiler Douglas Drachler & McKee, LLP, 1904 3rd Avenue, Suite 1030, Seattle, WA 98101-1170, (206) 623-0900.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 1819

Authors: Mechanic, D., Surles, R.C.

Title: Challenges in State Mental Health Policy and Administration.

Source: Health Affairs 11(3): 34-50, 1992. (Journal Article: 17 pages)

Abstract: President Reagan's "New Federalism" agenda of the 1980's included the dismantling of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) as a substantial service agency which meant that the initiative for mental health policy was returned to the states. According to the authors, the states and localities remain providers or payers of last resort for individuals who have serious mental illnesses. In this article, the authors explore some differences among states and consider opportunities for strengthening the state role. The article includes sections on integrated mental health agenda, the role of Medicaid and other national programs, the organization of state mental health agencies (SMHAs), building constituencies, state information systems, and the need for new approaches.

Order #: 12051

Authors: Morris, P.A., Huston, A.C., Duncan, G.J., Crosby, D.A., Bos, J.M.

Title: How Welfare and Work Policies Affect Children: A Synthesis of Research.

Source: New York, NY: Next Generation Project, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, 2001. (Report: 94 pages)

Abstract: In this report, the authors synthesize the results of five large-scale studies that together examine the effects on children of 11 different employment-based welfare and antipoverty programs aimed at single-parent families. The effects are evaluated on three key policy approaches: providing financial supports to working families, requiring single parents to work, and limiting the length of time families can receive welfare. The authors attempt to identify the program features that are associated with effects on children's school achievement, social behavior, and health. The article states that although most of the five studies were under way by 1996, they were designed to test the effects of many program features that have been implemented by the states since the federal welfare law of 1996 was passed (authors).

Available From: Next Generation Project, Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, 16 East 34 Street, New York, NY 10016, (212) 340-8678, www.mdrc.org/NextGeneration.

Order #: 12058

Authors: National Association of State Budget Officers, National Governors Association.

Title: Medicaid and Other State Healthcare Issues: The Current Situation. A Supplement to the Fiscal Survey of States.

Source: Washington, DC: National Association of State Budget Officers, 2002. (Report: 22 pages)

Abstract: This feature highlights state Medicaid expenditures; Medicaid cost containment measures that states are undertaking in fiscal 2002 as well as proposed actions for fiscal 2003; and changes in the State Children's Health Insurance Program and state-funded prescription drug programs. Fiscal 2001 data represent actual figures, fiscal 2002 figures are estimates, and fiscal 2003 data reflect figures in governors' recommended budgets (authors).

Available From: National Association of State Budget Officers, Hall of the States Building, Suite 642, 444 North Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 624-5382, <http://www.nasbo.org/Publications/PDFs/fsmedicaidmay2002.pdf>

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11936

Authors: National Association of State Budget Officers.

Title: NASBO Analysis: Medicaid to Stress State Budgets Severely into 2003.

Source: Washington, DC: National Association of State Budget Officers, 2002. (Report: 2 pages)

Abstract: Even as states struggle to close budget gaps and confront revenues growth that will lag a national economic recovery, Medicaid costs continue to grow at a remarkable rate. Based on the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO) preliminary review of 2001 and 2002 state expenditures, total state Medicaid spending increased by 11.6 percent and 11.7 percent, respectively, and now amounts to more than 20 percent of total state spending; just as states are trying to manage the recession's fiscal fallout, NASBO's analysis demonstrates that Medicaid continues to pressure state budgets severely (authors).

Available From: National Association of State Budget Officers, Hall of the States Building, Suite 642, 444 North Capitol Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, (202) 624-5382, <http://www.nasbo.org/Publications/PDFs/medicaid2003.pdf>

Order #: 5976

Authors: National Coalition for the Homeless.

Title: Welfare Repeal: Moving Americans Off Welfare, Into Homelessness. The Impact of H.R. 3734 on Homelessness in America.

Source: Washington, DC: National Coalition for the Homeless, 1996. (Report: 12 pages)

Abstract: On Aug. 1, 1996 Congress passed the most sweeping welfare legislation since the 1960s. This analysis contends that the legislation destroyed the federal safety net and will cause a dramatic increase in homelessness in the United States. The report explains changes that will occur including: work requirements; child care; education and training; food and nutrition; disabled children; and legal immigrants. The report stresses the need to participate in development of state plans.

Available From: National Coalition for the Homeless, 1012 Fourteenth Street, NW, #600, Washington, DC 20005-3471, (202) 737-6444, <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/>.

Order #: 6036

Authors: National Coalition for the Homeless.

Title: Legislative Wrap-Up: The 104th's Legacy.

Source: Safety Network 15(4): 1-4, 1996. (Newsletter: 3 pages)

Abstract: The authors focus on the legislative impact of the 104th Congress on low income and homeless persons. The legislative legacy is likely to inflict harm for decades, the authors contend. It effectively ends federal efforts to combat poverty and the consequences are born by those who have the least. Without increased resources for jobs, affordable housing, health care, education, and child care, this reform will prove to be most destructive by moving people from welfare into deeper poverty and homelessness.

Available From: National Coalition for the Homeless, 1012 Fourteenth Street, NW, #600, Washington, DC 20005-3471, (202) 737-6444, www.nationalhomeless.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11335

Authors: National Health Care for the Homeless Council and the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty.

Title: **The Effects of SSI & SSD Benefits Termination as Seen in HCH Projects.**

Source: Nashville, TN: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Inc., HCH Clinicians' Network, 1999. (Report: 20 pages)

Abstract: In 1996, the Social Security Act was amended to provide that an individual may not be eligible for SSI or SSD benefits if drug addiction or alcoholism (DA&A) is material to the disability determination. DA&A is "material" if the individual would not be deemed disabled if the use of drugs or alcohol were to stop. Because of the automatic link in most states between SSI and Medicaid, the loss of SSI benefits due to the DA&A benefits elimination necessarily means the elimination of health coverage for the affected individuals. In addition, loss of SSD benefits means the loss of Medicare coverage. The new provisions went into effect as of March 29, 1996, for new applicants. For people who were already receiving SSI or SSD benefits, the changes took effect on January 1, 1997, unless the recipient successfully pursued a redetermination of benefits. This paper reports on findings from a study conducted to examine the impacts of these changes in the law on people who received services through Health Care for the Homeless Projects nationwide. Specifically, the study looked at changes in housing arrangements and access to substance abuse treatment services in people whose benefits were terminated as a result of the changes in the law.

Available From: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, Inc., HCH Clinicians' Network, P.O. Box 60427, Nashville, TN 37206-0427, (615) 226-2292, council@nhchc.org, <http://www.nhchc.org/SSI.html>.

Order #: 6155

Authors: National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

Title: **A Bitter Pill: Welfare Reform and the Health of Homeless People.**

Source: Nashville, TN: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, 1995. (Report: 31 pages)

Abstract: The authors discuss the functions of welfare and of welfare "reform." The public welfare programs which impact upon the health of homeless persons are described, and the changes in these programs that would result from likely Congressional action are analyzed. The authors also provide suggestions for effective advocacy at the federal and state levels, which will assume increasing importance in the future given the likelihood of block grants and the trend toward giving more authority to the states.

Available From: National HCH Council, P.O. Box 60427, Nashville, TN 37206-0427, (615) 226-2292, www.nhchc.org. COST: \$5.00.

Order #: 10834

Authors: National Health Law Program.

Title: **An Advocate's Guide to the Medicaid Program.**

Source: Los Angeles, CA: National Health Law Program, 2001. (Resource Guide: 60 pages)

Abstract: This guide updates the 1993 edition, incorporating federal laws enacted since 1993. This includes the provisions of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, which repealed the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program and, with it, automatic Medicaid eligibility for families and children that qualified for AFDC. It also includes the provisions of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1997, which implemented numerous changes to states' administration of managed care programs. As with previous editions, this guide presents federal and state case law discussing the specific Medicaid Act provisions. Except for U.S. Supreme Court holdings, the case law may differ from state to state and from one federal circuit to another. Court access and choice of forum issues are particularly relevant in the Medicaid program at this time, and advocates should follow developments closely (authors).

Available From: National Health Law Program, (310) 204-6010, www.healthlaw.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11880

Authors: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

Title: **SSI: The Rights of Homeless Children and Youth.**

Source: Washington, DC: National Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 2002. (Guide: 1 pages)

Abstract: This fact sheet discusses why SSI benefits are provided to children and how to file an application for these benefits. Details on how long it takes to receive children's SSI benefits, and who can apply are all listed on this sheet.

Available From: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1411 K Street, NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-2535, www.nlchp.org.

Order #: 814

Authors: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

Title: **Social Security: Broken Promise to America's Homeless.**

Source: Washington, DC: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1990. (Report: 65 pages)

Abstract: This report examines barriers to Social Security benefits (including SSI) for elderly, physically disabled, and homeless mentally ill individuals and recommends a national outreach effort to assist them in applying for, receiving, and maintaining benefits.

Available From: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1411 K Street NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-2535, nlchp@nlchp.org, (COST: \$6.00)

Order #: 11881

Authors: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

Title: **Fact Sheet: Supplemental Security Income.**

Source: Washington, DC: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 2002. (Guide: 2 pages)

Abstract: SSI benefits are a critical part of the social safety net for low income disabled people without a significant work history. Receipt of SSI can allow previously homeless persons to obtain housing and Medicaid health care coverage. This sheet outlines how to apply for SSI, and eligibility for and receipt of SSI (author).

Available From: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 1411 K Street NW, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-2535, www.nlchp.org.

Order #: 12049

Authors: Neuberger, Z., Parrott, S., Primus, W.

Title: **Funding Issues in TANF Reauthorization.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2002. (Report: 23 pages)

Abstract: This report discusses the issues that arise from the funding structure of TANF, namely the fixed funding level of the block grant; the large disparities in block grant allocations among states; and the lack of a mechanism to provide additional resources to states during recessions. The next section of this report discusses how states have used their TANF funds over the past five years. A discussion of reauthorization proposals then follows (authors).

Available From: Center of Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, www.cbpp.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 1665

Authors: Newman, S., Ridgely, M.S.

Title: **Organization and Delivery of Independent Housing to Persons with Chronic Mental Illness.**

Source: Administration and Policy in Mental Health 21(3): 199-215, 1994. (Journal Article: 17 pages)

Abstract: This article provides insights into alternative approaches to organizing -- and in some cases reconceptualizing -- mental health systems. Housing development and delivery are highlighted. It is based on research conducted as part of the national evaluation of the Robert Wood Johnson Program on Chronic Mental Illness (PCMI). The authors focus on four features of the organization and delivery of housing to chronically mentally ill individuals: (1) the structure of the housing development entity; (2) linkages between the housing and mental health systems; (3) targeting of tenant applicants for independent housing; and (4) special issues in providing housing assistance to the homeless mentally ill (authors).

Order #: 8097

Authors: Nichols, L., Gault, B.

Title: **The Effects of Welfare Reform on Housing Stability and Homelessness: Current Research Findings, Legislation, and Programs.**

Source: Welfare Reform Network News 2(2): March 1999. (Newsletter: 15 pages)

Abstract: This article examines current research concerning the impact of welfare reform on housing and homelessness. The authors state that early findings on the effects of welfare reform suggest that benefit loss makes it more difficult for families to pay rent and can worsen hardship. Social service organizations in many states report increases in the numbers of families seeking shelter and other emergency services. Many state-level evaluations of families who have lost Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits do not ask questions related to housing instability, and those that do find little change in rates of homelessness. The authors conclude that further research that effectively locates the hardest to find respondents is necessary to fully understand the impact of welfare reform on homelessness.

Available From: Institute for Women's Policy Research, 1707 L Street, NW, Suite 750 Washington, DC 20036, (202) 785-5100, iwpr@iwpr.org, www.iwpr.org/WRNN10.html

Order #: 3323

Authors: Nunez, R.

Title: **Job Readiness: Crossing the Threshold From Homelessness to Employment.**

Source: Journal of Children and Poverty 1(2): 71-84, 1995. (Journal Article: 14 pages)

Abstract: This article discusses the poorest of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) recipients: homeless families. According to the author, homeless families with children suffer from a severe and chronic form of poverty that places heads of households outside the scope of traditional job training programs. To enable these individuals to participate in employment training requires a re-focusing of such programs, more appropriately, on job readiness. In particular, to effectively serve the homeless family population, job training programs must incorporate the crucial pre-training components of counseling, social services, and education to help the homeless heads of households reach the point where they are job ready, able to begin job training and become equipped with skills for successful employment (author).

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11613

Authors: Nuttbrock L.A., Rosenblum A.

Title: **Psychotic Ideation and Receipt of Government Entitlements Among Homeless Persons in New York City.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 53(6): 719-723, 2002. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This study compared changes in receipt of government entitlements by people who are homeless with and without psychotic ideation in New York City between January 1997 and July 1998, a period characterized by changing state government policies and greater bureaucratic monitoring of eligibility. In conjunction with an experimental study of the efficacy of social work services provided to people who are homeless in Manhattan by a mobile medical van, 25 persons who were assessed as having experienced psychotic ideation in the previous year and 134 nonpsychotic persons were followed up after four months to identify changes in their receipt of Medicaid benefits, Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), food stamps, and home relief (state welfare for single persons). The social work intervention was designed to help eligible clients gain access to entitlements and substance abuse treatment. The proportion of clients with psychotic ideation who received Medicaid, food stamps, or home relief decreased during the study period, while the proportion of nonpsychotic clients who received these entitlements increased. Little change was observed in receipt of SSI or SSDI by either group. Psychotic ideation among people who are homeless may be a significant factor in access to and maintenance of government entitlements. In the context of an increasingly restrictive and bureaucratic welfare system, providing assistance to homeless persons who have severe psychopathology presents new challenges to service providers (authors).

Order #: 2711

Authors: Okpaku, S.O., Sibulkin, A.E., Schenzler, C.

Title: **Disability Determinations for Adults with Mental Disorders: Social Security Administration vs. Independent Judgments.**

Source: American Journal of Public Health 84(11): 1791-1795, 1994. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: In this study, disability determinations, due to mental impairment, made by the Disability Determination Service for Social Security Administration (SSA) were compared with the independent judgments of a team of mental health workers. Because the team could not reach a decision for almost half of the subjects, agreement with SSA decisions consisted of only 40% of the cases. The authors contend that sufficient evidence exists to question the reliability of SSA disability determinations for mental disorders (authors).

Order #: 5679

Authors: Polak, P., Warner, R.

Title: **The Economic Life of Seriously Mentally Ill People in the Community.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 47(2): 270-274, 1996. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: Fifty people who have serious mental illness living in the Boulder, CO., community were interviewed for a study that examined economic disincentives and incentives to work. An additional 100 people who have schizophrenia were interviewed about work, income, and wage requirements. Findings emphasize the importance of developing higher-paying jobs for this population and reforming entitlement programs to incorporate work incentives.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 8876

Authors: Post, P.

Title: **Casualties of Complexity: Why Eligible Homeless People Are Not Enrolled in Medicaid.**

Source: Nashville, TN: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, 2001. (Report: 83 pages)

Abstract: The complexity and diversity of state Medicaid programs present significant access barriers for the highly mobile homeless population, especially for individuals who lack the capacity to document their eligibility in prescribed ways. Many eligible homeless people remain uninsured, and this lack of health coverage limits their access to health care and threatens both individual and community health. The purpose of this document is to identify obstacles that prevent eligible homeless people from enrolling in Medicaid, to describe how experienced homeless service providers are attempting to address these problems, and to recommend ways in which the obstacles can be surmounted or removed.

Order #: 11798

Authors: Quane, J.M., Rankin, B.H., Joshi, P.

Title: **Welfare, Children & Families: A Three City Study.**

Source: Policy Brief 2(4): 1-11, 2002. (Journal Article: 10 pages)

Abstract: Housing subsidies play a significant role in alleviating financial strain and helping families make a successful transition from welfare to work. Recent welfare leavers without housing assistance pay 64 percent of their household income for rent and utilities, compared to 23 percent of recent leavers with assistance. Furthermore, 33 percent of recent leavers without a subsidy indicate that they are unable to make ends meet from month to month. Families on welfare and without housing subsidies spend more than 50 percent of their income on the cost of housing. Poor families that have never received welfare and are not the beneficiaries of housing assistance are also affected by the high costs of housing. Despite gains from housing subsidies, housing-assisted families are more likely to reside in undesirable neighborhoods where concerns about crime and social isolation are greater (authors).

Order #: 11275

Authors: Rafferty Zedlewski, S.

Title: **The Importance of Housing Benefits to Welfare Success.**

Source: Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution, 2002. (Report: 9 pages)

Abstract: This brief analyzes data from the Urban Institute's 1999 National Survey of America's Families on current and former welfare recipients to assess the importance of housing benefits for welfare success. The data show that despite reporting significantly more personal challenges that make employment difficult, poor families that had left welfare but received housing assistance did better at work than those without it. Also, families leaving welfare tend to retain housing benefits, unlike other work supports such as food stamps and Medicaid. The brief concludes that housing assistance can clearly make a difference in moving families from welfare to work (authors).

Available From: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington DC 20036, (202) 797-6000, <http://www.brookings.edu/dybdocroot/es/urban/publications/zedlewskihousingbenefit.pdf>

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11837

Authors: Reeg, B., Grisham, C., Shepard, A.

Title: **Families on the Edge: Homeless Young Parents and Their Welfare Experiences. A Survey of Homeless Youth and Service Providers.**

Source: Washington, DC: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 2002. (Report: 44 pages)

Abstract: Despite being almost universally eligible for welfare, many homeless young parents are not receiving needed services, and many aren't even aware that the welfare program exists, according to this report released by the National Network for Youth and CLASP. Even when homeless youth know about Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), they have trouble accessing or keeping benefits. This report also discusses how the TANF living arrangement rule for minors may be operating as a barrier to TANF services rather than as an opportunity to help homeless young parents find safe housing. It concludes with recommendations for federal and state policymakers (authors).

Available From: The Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, http://www.clasp.org/Pubs/DMS/Documents/1037307545.54/edge_report.pdf

Order #: 11079

Authors: Rosen, J., Hoey, R., Steed, T.

Title: **Food Stamps and SSI Benefits: Removing Access Barriers for Homeless People.**

Source: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy (March-April): 679-696, 2001. (Journal Article: 18 pages)

Abstract: This article reviews the SSI program and the Food Stamp Program, identifies potential access barriers, and discusses strategies for removing those barriers. Being extremely poor, people who are homeless should be eligible for a variety of public benefit programs. Both of these programs provide assistance that can make a real difference in the lives of people who are homeless, and can provide a means out of homelessness. However, people who are homeless are often unable to meet residency and address requirements. Documents may not be available and information may not be readily verifiable, posing another type of potentially insurmountable barrier. Further, the lack of a permanent address may make compliance with application processes difficult or impossible. Advocates can use provisions in current law to overcome at least some of these barriers.

Order #: 6793

Authors: Rosenheck, R.

Title: **Disability Payments and Chemical Dependence: Conflicting Values and Uncertain Effects.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 48(6): 789-791, 1997. (Journal Article: 3 pages)

Abstract: This article introduces a special section of five data-based papers on the relation of disability payments to chemical dependence. The papers address five questions: Do public support payments worsen substance abuse in vulnerable populations? Does assignment of a representative payee reduce substance abuse among such beneficiaries? What money management procedures are most likely to yield positive outcomes for clients? How can clients who need payees be fairly identified? And how should skilled, responsible payees or guardians be recruited, trained, and retrained? The author contends that these papers shed a new light on a heated area of policy debate.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7855

Authors: Rosenheck, R., Frisman, L., Kaspro, W.

Title: Improving Access to Disability Benefits Among Homeless Persons with Mental Illness: An Agency-Specific Approach to Services Integration.

Source: American Journal of Public Health 89(4): 524-528, 1999. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This article presents the results of a special initiative designed to improve access to Social Security benefits, including both Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), among homeless mentally ill veterans participating in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) program. In the initiative, both a Social Security Claims Representative and a state Disability Determination Analyst were co-located with HCHV clinical teams to facilitate applications for Social Security benefits. The project has three objectives: (1) to increase applications for SSI and SSDI among entitled veterans; (2) to increase awards for disability benefits; and (3) to increase the proportion of timely decisions.

Order #: 8777

Authors: Rosenheck, R.A., Dausey, D.J., Frisman, L., Kaspro, W.

Title: Outcomes After Initial Receipt of Social Security Benefits Among Homeless Veterans With Mental Illness.

Source: Psychiatric Services 51(12): 1549-1554, 2000. (Journal Article: 6 pages)

Abstract: This article examines the relationship between receiving disability payments and changes in health status, community adjustment, and subjective quality of life. The study evaluated outcomes among homeless mentally ill veterans who applied for Social Security Disability Insurance or Supplemental Security Income through a special outreach program. Veterans who were awarded benefits were compared with those who were denied benefits; their sociodemographic characteristics, clinical status, and social adjustment were evaluated just before receiving the initial award decision and again three months later. Beneficiaries (N=50) did not differ from those who were denied benefits (N=123) on any baseline sociodemographic or clinical characteristics. However, beneficiaries were more willing to delay gratification, as reflected in scores on a time preference measure. Three months after the initial decision, beneficiaries had significantly higher total incomes and reported a higher quality of life. They spent more on housing, food, clothing, transportation, and tobacco products but not on alcohol or illegal drugs. The authors conclude that receipt of disability payments is associated with improved subjective quality of life and is not associated with increased alcohol or drug use.

Order #: 12267

Authors: Rosso, R.

Title: Characteristics of Food Stamp Households: Fiscal Year 2001.

Source: Alexandria, VA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2003. (Report: 116 pages)

Abstract: This report presents a picture of households and individuals participating in the Food Stamp Program (FSP) in fiscal year 2001. The authors provide an overview of the FSP, including the regulations used to determine eligibility and benefits, and the factors that affect program participation and costs, such as trends in the national economy. The report also describes the characteristics of individuals and households participating in the FSP in fiscal year 2001. The appendices include detailed tabulations of household and participant characteristics for the nation and by state, and a brief description of the sample design and the sampling error associated with the estimates presented in this report (authors).

Available From: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 3101 Park Center Drive, Room 503, Alexandria, VA 22302, www.fns.usda.gov/oane.

Benefits and Entitlements

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- Authors:** Salomon, A., Bassuk, S., Brooks, M.
- Title:** **Patterns of Welfare Use Among Poor and Homeless Women.**
- Source:** American Journal of Orthopsychiatry 66(4): 510-525,1996. (Journal Article: 16 pages)
- Abstract:** This article describes a study in which the relationship between patterns of welfare use and demographic, health, and social factors was assessed in a cross-sectional survey of homeless and poorly housed women on welfare. Homeless women using transitional shelters in Worcester, Mass., (n=220) were randomly interviewed. Factors associated with long-term welfare and those associated with episodic (as opposed to continuous) welfare use are identified. Implications for welfare reform are discussed in light of findings that highlight the complexity of these women's lives and the variation in their use of welfare. The authors contend that policies directed at preventing long-term Aid to Families with Dependent Children use solely through work-based initiatives will not succeed in insuring economic independence.
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- Order #: 6464**
- Authors:** Sard, B.
- Title:** **A Housing Perspective on TANF Reauthorization and Support for Working Families.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2002. (Report: 13 pages)
- Abstract:** This paper is divided into four sections. The introductory section briefly states the case for why housing issues should be considered as part of welfare reform. The second section lists proposed changes in the TANF statute. The third section lists proposed changes in housing programs and new housing initiatives that could proceed through the housing committees, as a parallel process to TANF reauthorization. The housing ideas are further divided into proposals targeted on current and recent TANF families, and proposals to address housing problems more broadly, including those of poor families with children. The fourth section is a set of proposed changes to federal housing programs that would promote marriage and family formation (authors).
- Available From:** Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, www.centeronbudget.org.
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- Order #: 11312**
- Authors:** Sard, B.
- Title:** **The Family Self-Sufficiency Program.**
- Source:** Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2001. (Report: 41 pages)
- Abstract:** This paper analyzes the value of the FSS program for tenants and PHA's and offers suggestions for overcoming perceived or actual barriers to PHA implementation or expansion of the program. It also highlights how welfare agencies may advance welfare reform goals by helping PHA's expand their programs and by encouraging families that receive TANF benefits to participate in FSS (authors).
- Available From:** Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, www.centeronbudget.org.
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- Order #: 12256**

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11094

Authors: Sard, B., Harrison, T.

Title: **The Increasing Use of TANF and State Matching Funds to Provide Housing Assistance to Families Moving from Welfare to Work - 2001 Supplement.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2001. (Report: 18 pages)

Abstract: The paper "The Increasing Use of TANF and State Matching Funds to Provide Housing Assistance to Families Moving from Welfare to Work" provides a detailed look at eight state and local programs that use federal TANF or state MOE funds to provide housing assistance to families attempting to make the transition from welfare to work. It also explains the issues that states and counties should consider in deciding which funding sources to use for particular housing programs. Since that paper was published, four additional states and localities, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Denver, Colorado have initiated housing programs using TANF funds. This supplemental paper first reviews HHS' relevant guidance and states' ability to transfer TANF funds to the Social Services Block Grant. It then explores the six new state and local initiatives that use TANF or MOE funds to help subsidize families' ongoing housing costs. These recent efforts provide further evidence that an increasing number of state and local governments are recognizing the importance of addressing families' housing needs as part of state welfare reform efforts (authors).

Available From: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, N.E., Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, <http://www.cbpp.org/12-3-01hous.htm>.

Order #: 8406

Authors: Sard, B., Lubell, J.

Title: **The Increasing Use of TANF and State Matching Funds to Provide Housing Assistance to Families Moving from Welfare to Work.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2000. (Report: 69 pages)

Abstract: In the last two years, the states of Connecticut, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina and New Jersey, and Los Angeles and San Mateo Counties in California have used federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or state Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds, alone or in combination with other funds, to establish programs to provide housing assistance to families attempting to make the transition from welfare to work. This report describes ways in which states can assist families who are moving from welfare to work. The authors conclude that states that wish to establish a housing assistance program that services both families that currently receive TANF cash assistance and families that do not receive TANF can create a housing program that combines use of federal funds for families currently receiving TANF cash aid with use of MOE funds for other families (authors).

Available From: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, NE, Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 408-1080, www.centeronbudget.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 6717

Authors: Satel, S., Reuter, P., Hartley, D., Rosenheck, R., Mintz, J.

Title: **Influence of Retroactive Disability Payments on Recipients' Compliance With Substance Abuse Treatment.**

Source: Psychiatric Services 48(6): 796-799, 1997. (Journal Article: 4 pages)

Abstract: This article examines whether substance abusers who received large retroactive payments from Social Security disability programs were more likely to terminate residential treatment precipitously than those who did not receive payments. The records of 43 patients of a long-term residential treatment facility who received disability payments at some point during their treatment stay were blindly examined. Twenty-six of these patients received a large one-time retroactive payment representing money that accumulated during processing of the claims. To test the hypothesis that receipt of such a payment would lead to abrupt discharge, a survival regression model was used. A control group of nonrecipient patients was sampled at a comparable point in treatment. Subjects in the recipient group were significantly more likely to have unplanned discharges than those in the comparison group. These preliminary data suggest that large cash infusions can be disruptive to the course of treatment for substance abusers (authors).

Order #: 10977

Authors: Savner, S., Strawn, J., Greenberg, M.

Title: **TANF Reauthorization: Opportunities to Reduce Poverty by Improving Employment Outcomes.**

Source: Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, 2002. (Report: 14 pages)

Abstract: One goal of the 1996 welfare law was to reduce the number of families receiving cash assistance. Another goal was to promote employment among poor parents. In addition, for many, another goal of welfare policy is to reduce poverty among families with children and assist poor families to reach greater financial security. In theory, all of these goals can work in harmony if a policy and funding framework emphasizes preparation for and access to good jobs, and access to work supports such as subsidized child care, that enables families to find stability and security in the labor market. However, these goals are distinct and success in achieving one goal is not always matched by comparable success in achieving the others. One important policy discussion during TANF reauthorization will concern the balance that should be struck among these potentially competing goals, and the strategies that states are allowed, encouraged, or required to undertake in achieving any agreed upon goals. Background is provided on some of the key features of the original legislation that relate to work and information about the experience to date regarding employment and earnings for families receiving and leaving welfare. Specific recommendations for changes in TANF are made that could improve employment outcomes by encouraging better initial jobs, a stronger emphasis on advancement for low-earning workers, and better linkages to work supports for parents entering and working in low-wage jobs (authors).

Available From: Center for Law and Social Policy, 1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 906-8000, www.cbpp.org/tanfseries.htm.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7817

Authors: Schoeni, R.F., Koegel, P.

Title: Economic Resources of the Homeless: Evidence from Los Angeles.

Source: Contemporary Economic Policy 16(3): 295-308, 1998. (Journal Article: 14 pages)

Abstract: This article examines the economic resources of homeless adults using a unique data set from Los Angeles. The homeless rely on a variety of sources of income, but the two most common sources are the government and the family. Over 58% received government transfers in the 30 days prior to the interview, while one-third had received cash assistance from a family member or friend. Familial transfers in the form of shared housing and meals were also important. While familial transfers buffer declines in income among the homeless, private support networks are not pervasive enough to overcome the severe difficulties the homeless face. Moreover, it is unclear why such a high share of the homeless do not participate in government assistance programs, although the evidence suggests that transaction costs are likely to be an important factor (authors).

Order #: 11937

Authors: Smith, V., Gifford, K., Ramesh, R., Wachino, V.

Title: Medicaid Spending Growth: A 50-State Update for Fiscal Year 2003.

Source: Washington, DC: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, 2003. (Report: 22 pages)

Abstract: The fiscal outlook for states does not yet appear to be improving. Medicaid is caught between the rapid deterioration of state revenues on the one hand, and increased health care spending on the other. States have been taking action to cut their Medicaid spending growth. As this survey indicates, even states with Medicaid cost containment actions in their original 2003 budget have planned actions to make further reductions. Unless Medicaid spending growth suddenly and unexpectedly abates, or unless state revenue collections rebound, Medicaid is destined to remain in a precarious position (authors).

Available From: Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, 1330 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 347-5270, <http://www.kff.org/content/2003/20030113/>

Order #: 12064

Authors: Smith, V.K.

Title: Making Medicaid Better: Options to Allow States to Continue to Participate and to Bring the Program Up to Date in Today's Health Care Marketplace.

Source: Washington, DC: National Governors Association, 2002. (Report: 28 pages)

Abstract: Medicaid is a State-Federal health care program created by the Social Security Amendments of 1965. States administer the program within Federal guidelines. Over the years, Congress has added substantially to the scope of Medicaid, and as the program has expanded it has become increasingly important as a mechanism to finance health care for low-income children, families, pregnant women, the elderly and persons with disabilities. It also now finances a large share of mental health, public health and services for the aging. Over time Medicaid has become burdened with new requirements, and the costs for states have become greater than ever expected. Medicaid has grown to be larger than Medicare in terms of program costs and the number of persons served annually. The cost of Medicaid borne by states has become so large as to raise a question about the ability of states to pay their share in the future. This paper identifies options that would restructure the financing of the program so states could afford to contribute to its financing into the future. These changes would help Medicaid be more effective in providing health coverage for low-income uninsured Americans (author).

Available From: National Governors Association, Center for Best Practices, Hall of States, 444 N. Capitol St., Washington, D.C. 20001-1512, (202) 624-5300, <http://www.nga.org/cda/files/MAKINGMEDICAIDBETTER.pdf>

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11475

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security: A Guide For Representative Payees.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2001. (Guide: 18 pages)

Abstract: This booklet is for people who have volunteered to be a representative payee for someone who receives Social Security benefits and needs help managing his or her money. When people need help managing their benefits, Social Security--after a careful investigation--appoints a relative, friend or other interested party to serve as the beneficiary's representative payee. This means the person's benefits are then paid to the payee on the beneficiary's behalf. More than six million people who get monthly Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits need this kind of help (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10024.html>.

Order #: 11843

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: 2002 Red Book on Employment Support: A Summary Guide to Employment Support Available to People With Disabilities Under the SSDI and SSI Programs.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Guide: 62 pages)

Abstract: This booklet is intended to serve as a general reference source about the employment-related provisions of SSDI and SSI programs for educators, advocates, rehabilitation professionals, and counselors who serve people with disabilities. Many such individuals need a working knowledge of the technical provisions involved so that they can advise people with disabilities appropriately and recognize when to seek case-specific guidance from the Social Security Administration (SSA). One of the SSA's highest priorities is to help people with disabilities achieve independence by helping them to take advantage of employment opportunities. It is expected that many applicants and beneficiaries will use this booklet as a self-help guide to the employment-related provisions under SSA programs (authors).

Available From: Project ABLE, Social Security Administration, Room 107 Altmeyer Building, Baltimore, MD 21235-6401, www.ssa.gov.

Order #: 11474

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security Representative Payment Program: Guide for Organizational Representative Payees.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2001. (Guide: 82 pages)

Abstract: The Social Security Administration (SSA) developed this handbook for use when serving as a representative payee. It provides guidance to assist in understanding the principles of the Representative Payment program. It is a how-to manual with specific instructions for serving as a representative payee. Within this framework, a representative payee system can be tailored to fit an organization's resources and the needs of its beneficiaries. Community representative payee programs play a vital role in serving SSA beneficiaries. They help to ensure that benefit payments are used for basic needs, which provide the beneficiary with a more stable environment. A caring representative payee can help motivate many beneficiaries to work toward more independent living and can improve their response to therapy, rehabilitation, and their family (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10024.html>.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11308

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: A Desktop Guide to SSI Eligibility Requirements.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Guide: 2 pages)

Abstract: This chart describes the basic eligibility requirements for SSI. The back of this chart provides additional information about benefits provided by the states. SSI is a federal program that makes monthly payments to people who have limited income and resources if they are 65 or older or if they are blind or have another disability (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/11001.html>.

Order #: 11647

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security Administration Homeless Plan.

Source: Washington, DC: National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2002. (Other/Misc: 5 pages)

Abstract: The Social Security Administration has adopted a plan, requested by Congress, for providing services to people who are homeless. The plan includes a number of positive elements, including: better data collection on use of SSA programs by people who are homeless; relationship building with other agencies and organizations, including through the federal Interagency Council for the Homeless; examination of the results of previous outreach efforts to people who are homeless; assistance in completing forms and gathering basic evidence, and expediting processing of applications by people who are homeless; a reminder to state disability agencies to collect all medical records before scheduling consultative examinations during the process of evaluating whether a homeless applicant is disabled; continuation of an existing pilot program in Baltimore that allows a nonprofit service provides to find people presumptively eligible for SSI ; information targeted to people who are homeless about SSA programs; recruitment of additional qualified representative payees; and training for SSA staff. The plan does not expand support for successful models for addressing the most persistent barriers to use of these programs by people who are homeless, particularly people with severe mental illness. Those barriers have been shown to include difficulty in articulating the nature of the disability (when asked to do so during a consultative exam with an evaluator whom the applicant has never met), not knowing what kind of documentation is appropriate and/or available, and not effectively managing paperwork throughout a long application process while homeless (authors).

Available From: National Alliance to End Homelessness, 1518 K Street NW, Suite 206, Washington, DC 20005, (202) 638-1526, naeh@naeh.org, http://www.endhomelessness.org/pol/SSA_homeless_plan.pdf

Order #: 11306

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security: Understanding the Benefits.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Guide: 39 pages)

Abstract: This booklet was prepared by the Social Security Administration. It has information on what people need to know about Social Security while still working and what they need to know about collecting benefits. It also provides an overview of Medicare and SSI (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, www.ssa.gov/pubs/10024.html.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 3218

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Serving as a Representative Payee.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 1992. (Videotape: 18 minutes)

Abstract: This video, produced by the Social Security Administration (SSA), describes how individuals and community organizations can serve as representative payees for more than 3 million people receiving Social Security Income (SSI) disability benefits. In addition to describing the program, how to become a representative payee and what responsibility it entails, the video features interviews with individuals who are currently representative payees.

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, www.ssa.gov

Order #: 11555

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: The Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel.

Source: Washington, DC: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Report: 53 pages)

Abstract: This document reports on the findings, issues, conclusions, and recommendations of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel regarding implementation of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act and related programs by the Social Security Administration (SSA). It delineates particular issues with a number of specific recommendations to Congress. It also includes a summary of the Panel's activities and its advice and recommendations to SSA during year two of implementation (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel, 400 Virginia Avenue, SW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 358-6430, http://www.ssa.gov/work/panel/panel_documents/annual_report.html#msg

Order #: 12269

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security Series.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Brochure Series: 14 brochures)

Abstract: In this series of brochures and booklets, the Social Security Administration describes and explains policies and programs including: benefits for children with disabilities; the ticket to work and self sufficiency program; working while disabled; workers' compensation and other disability payments; vocational rehabilitation; claims disputes; supplemental security income (SSI); Medicare; disability benefits, retirement and survivor benefits, low-vision help, and women's benefits.

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10024.html>.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11307

Authors: Social Security Administration.

Title: Social Security: A Guide to SSI for Groups and Organizations.

Source: Baltimore, MD: Social Security Administration, 2002. (Guide: 33 pages)

Abstract: This booklet describes the SSI program in detail. SSI is a federal program that provides monthly payments to people who are age 65 or older or are blind or have a disability and who have little or no resources and income. This booklet is designed to assist institutions, groups and organizations that have contact with potential or current SSI recipients (authors).

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/11015.html#part1>.

Order #: 11157

Authors: Straka, D., Tempel, C., Lipson, K.

Title: TANF Funding for Services in Supportive Housing for Homeless Families and Young Adults.

Source: New York, NY: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 2001. (Report: 25 pages)

Abstract: This report sets forth a legal and policy analysis to support a model approach to using federal and state welfare funds to finance essential services for homeless families, families at risk of becoming homeless, homeless youth and young adults aging out of foster care, who face multiple barriers to stability and self-sufficiency. Many states have available large sums of money in the form of a federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant surplus and a potential shortfall in State Maintenance of Effort (MOE) expenditures. These funds are well-suited to fill the gap in financing for supportive housing for homeless families, those at risk of homelessness, and young adults who would otherwise become homeless. In the fifth year of welfare reform, the time is ripe to implement family and young adult supportive housing initiatives (authors).

Available From: Corporation for Supportive Housing, 50 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10004, information@csh.org, <http://intranet.csh.org/pdfs/TANFReportNov01.pdf>.

Order #: 8664

Authors: Swartz, J.A., Lurigio, A.J., Goldstein, P.

Title: Severe Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders Among Former Supplemental Security Income Beneficiaries for Drug Addiction and Alcoholism.

Source: Archives of General Psychiatry 57(7): 701-707, 2000. (Journal Article: 7 pages)

Abstract: This article examines whether recently enacted federal legislation targeted at curbing abuses of cash benefits for former Supplemental Security Income beneficiaries for drug addiction and/or alcoholism (DA&A) may be creating a residual population that is to seriously impaired to work owing to psychiatric and substance use disorders. Data were derived from one-year follow-up interviews of 204 randomly selected DA&A beneficiaries in Chicago who were initially interviewed between January and March 1997, immediately following their termination in the Supplemental Security Income DA&A program. Twenty-six percent had a past-year severe mental illness while 34% met the DSM-III-R criteria for drug dependence. Illegal drug use was also prevalent with about 50% of the sample testing positive for marijuana, cocaine, or opiates. Compared with those working and earning at least \$500 a month, unemployed or underemployed subjects who had lost all federal benefits had a much greater likelihood of being dependent on drugs and of having two or more comorbid psychiatric disorders. The authors state that it is increasingly difficult to help those who have lost DA&A benefits and who continue to be unemployed or underemployed make the transition from government assistance to sustained employment.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 1547

Authors: Thorne, R.A., Zandler, C., Waller, J.B., Scharer, L.K., Canto, M.

Title: Entitlements.

Source: In Brickner, P.W., Scharer, L.K., Conanan, B.A., Savarese, M., and Scanlan, B.C. (eds.), Under the Safety Net: The Health and Social Welfare of the Homeless in the United States. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Company, 1990. (Book Chapter: 13 pages)

Abstract: According to the authors, access to government entitlements are ill designed for homeless persons, given their difficulty in obtaining required documents (i.e. birth certificates). They contend that when entitlement programs can be effectively distorted in order to obtain basic benefits, the process demands an intense effort on the part of trained staff members. This chapter discusses the results from four years of effort by the 19 Johnson/Pew Health Care for the Homeless Programs which prove that even with assiduous, highly motivated effort, results are poor. In most projects, attempts were made to seek Medicaid income, for instance, but the cost in employee time of obtaining Medicaid funds usually surpassed the dollars received. The three programs discussed in this chapter located in Phoenix, Detroit and Philadelphia are among the most successful and offer valuable lessons in technique and perseverance (authors).

Available From: W. W. NORTON & COMPANY, INC., 500 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10110, (212) 354-5500, www.wwnorton.com.

Order #: 11949

Authors: United States Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights.

Title: Prohibition Against Discrimination on the Basis of Disability in the Administration of TANF.

Source: Washington, DC: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights, 2001. (Report: 44 pages)

Abstract: This policy guidance clarifies the obligations Title II of the ADA and Section 504 impose on State and local government entities, and on recipients of Federal financial assistance from HHS involved in TANF activities, in fulfilling their responsibilities pursuant to Title II of the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Specifically, this guidance identifies essential requirements of an ADA-504 compliant TANF program that the Office for Civil Rights will apply in its compliance reviews and/or investigations of complaints of discrimination on the basis of disability in TANF programs. These requirements are not new, rather, they reiterate ADA Title II and Section 504 principles that OCR has been enforcing for many years. The guidance also sets out "promising practices," policies, procedures and other recommended steps that recipients and covered entities can take to ensure meaningful access to TANF programs by people with disabilities. These "promising practice" provisions are not mandatory requirements; they are one way for a TANF agency to meet obligations to ensure equal access through the provision of appropriate services, modify policies, practices and procedures to provide such access, unless doing so would result in a fundamental alteration to the program, and to adopt non-discriminatory methods of administration (authors).

Available From: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, (877) 696-6775, <http://www.uchsc.edu/projectwin/WIN%20Initiatives/welfare%20reform.pdf>

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 12047

Authors: United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Title: 2002 Temporary Assistance for Needs Families Program (TANF): Fifth Annual Report to Congress.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2003. (Report: 374 pages)

Abstract: In 1996, Congress created the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, which was enacted under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), replacing the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) and related welfare programs. This report highlights the status of the TANF caseloads, work participation rates, State expenditures, characteristics of TANF recipients, and other State policies (authors).

Available From: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20201, www.hhs.gov.

Order #: 2431

Authors: United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Title: Disability Process Redesign: The Proposal from the SSA Disability Process Reengineering Team.

Source: Washington, DC: Social Security Administration, 1994. (Report: 25 pages)

Abstract: This report is a summary of the Disability Reengineering Team's proposal to the Social Security Administration to restructure the disability claim process for Social Security Income (SSI). It represents the collective efforts of the 18 member Disability Reengineering Team, composed of federal and state employees. Under the proposed claim process, the number of appeal steps would be reduced and opportunities for personal interaction with decision makers will be increased. A summary of the differences between the current claims process and the proposed processes is presented.

Available From: Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235, (800) 772-1213, <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs>.

Order #: 11857

Authors: United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Title: Indicators of Welfare Dependence 2002.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2002. (Report: 50 pages)

Abstract: This report uses data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) and administrative data to provide updated measures through 1999 for several dependence indicators. Other measures are based on the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID), and other data sources. Drawing on these various data sources, this report provides a number of key indicators of welfare reciprocity, dependence, and labor force attachment. The Welfare Indicators Act of 1994 requires the Department of Health and Human Services to prepare annual reports to Congress on indicators and predictors of welfare dependence. This report reflects changes that have taken place since the enactment of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) in August 1996. The report focuses on benefits under the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, now the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; the Food Stamp Program; and the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program.

Available From: Office of Human Services Policy, Room 404E, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 200 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/indicators02>

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 8488

Authors: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Title: **The Impacts of Federal Welfare Reform on HUD Public and Assisted Housing: An Initial Assessment.**

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 1997. (Report: 30 pages)

Abstract: This report examines the potential impacts of the federal welfare reform on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs and on the people and neighborhoods served by HUD. The report first summarizes the changes brought by The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. It then examines the impacts that these changes will have on projected subsidy costs, non-citizens, longer-term empowerment of low-income families, rent default and evictions, the central cities, and homelessness. To help put these issues into context, an attachment to the publication provides demographic and income data about residents of public and assisted housing. The report also examines the ways in which HUD is helping families become more self-sufficient, detailing HUD's employment training and job development programs.

Available From: HUD USER, P.O. Box 23268, Washington, DC 20026, (800) 245-3691, www.huduser.org.

Order #: 10610

Authors: United States Department of Veteran Affairs.

Title: **Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents.**

Source: United States Department of Veteran Affairs, Office of Public Affairs, 2001. (Resource Guide: 102 pages)

Abstract: This publication describes the various benefits that veterans and their dependents are eligible to receive. It first explains who qualifies and how one files a claim. It then discusses in more detail the health care benefits, as well as disability compensation, pension, education, employment, home loan guaranties, life insurance, and burial benefits.

Available From: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20420 (202) 273-5700, www.va.gov

Order #: 11310

Authors: United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Title: **VA Programs for Homeless Veterans.**

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2002. (Program Description: 6 pages)

Abstract: This fact sheet describes the programs and services offered by the VA for homeless veterans. The VA is the only federal agency that provides substantial hands-on assistance directly to homeless persons. Although limited to veterans and their dependents, VA's major homeless programs constitute the largest integrated network of homeless assistance programs in the country, offering a wide array of services and initiatives to help veterans recover from homelessness and live as self-sufficiently and independently as possible. Nearly one-quarter of homeless veterans have said they have used VA homeless services and 57 percent have said they have used VA health-care services (authors).

Available From: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20420 (202) 273-5700, www.va.gov/pressrel/hmls01fs.htm.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7523

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Welfare Reform: State and Local Responses to Restricting Food Stamp Benefits.**

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 1997. (Report: 53 pages)

Abstract: This report examines several issues concerning the impact of welfare reform on the Food Stamp Program. The report focuses on two groups of individuals that were the most likely to lose their food stamp benefits - able-bodied adults without dependents and legal immigrants. Specifically, the General Accounting Office (GAO) describes: (1) actions, if any, that states have taken to assist those individuals who lose eligibility for the Food Stamp Program; and (2) related actions, if any, taken by other organizations in selected localities - local governments and nonprofit organizations -- to assist those individuals who lose their eligibility for the Food Stamp Program. The GAO found that most states are taking a variety of measures to address the changes in the Food Stamp Program as a result of welfare reform. In the five localities examined, government officials are implementing their state's efforts to address changes and, in some cases are working with local nonprofit organizations to plan for an expected increase in the need for food assistance.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov. (ORDER #: GAO/RCED-98-41)

Order #: 7539

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Medicaid: Disproportionate Share Payments to State Psychiatric Hospitals.**

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 1998. (Report: 11 pages)

Abstract: In 1993, Congress added limits on payments that could be made under a disproportionate share hospital (DSH) program to further restrict state "creative financing mechanisms" under Medicaid. In this study, the General Accounting Office (GAO) examined six states in order to determine: (1) how the amount of DSH payments to state psychiatric hospitals compares with DSH payments made to other types of hospitals; (2) how the proportion of Medicaid beneficiaries in state psychiatric hospitals compared with that in other hospitals; and (3) what proportion of the maximum allowable DSH payment states paid state psychiatric hospitals compared with the proportion of the maximum allowable paid to other types of hospitals. Medicaid DSH payments to state psychiatric hospitals were found to be far larger on average than payments made to other types of local public and private hospitals, enabling the states to obtain federal matching funds to indirectly cover costs of patient services that Medicaid cannot pay for directly. The states in the GAO review allocated DSH funds to state hospitals at or near the maximum allowed by Medicaid rules and made DSH payments to other hospitals that were far below their limits (author).

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 11170

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Medicaid Financial Management: Better Oversight of State Claims for Federal Reimbursement Needed.**

Source: Washington, D.C.: United States General Accounting Office, 2002. (Report: 44 pages)

Abstract: This report assesses whether the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services has an adequate oversight process to help ensure the propriety of Medicaid expenditures, adequately evaluates and monitors the results of its oversight process and makes adjustment as warranted, and whether the current organizational structure for financial management is conducive to effectively directing its oversight process sustaining future improvements.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7738

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Medicaid: Early Implications of Welfare Reform for Beneficiaries and States.**

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 1998. (Report: 32 pages)

Abstract: Welfare reform made few changes to Medicaid directly, but there was concern that state Medicaid programs could be affected since states could change the eligibility criteria for cash assistance, which was often the basis for Medicaid eligibility. To identify the Medicaid-related options states were provided under welfare reform, the General Accounting Office (GAO) analyzed the law and interviewed issue area experts. To identify the choices states have made for their Medicaid programs and the resulting impact on beneficiaries and state administrative processes during the first full year of the law's implementation, the GAO contacted officials from the Health Care Financing Administration and visited nine states between March and June 1997. During the first full year of welfare reform, the nine state the GAO reviewed chose welfare reform options that generally sustained Medicaid coverage for their previously eligible populations.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 10477

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Welfare Reform: More Coordinated Effort Could Help States and Localities Move TANF Recipients With Impairments Toward Employment.**

Source: Washington, DC: United States General Accounting Office, 2001. (Report: 51 pages)

Abstract: With TANF reauthorization, GAO responds to congressional concern and provides information on the percentage of TANF recipients considered to have mental or physical impairments and how this percentage has changed over time; how county TANF agencies assess and move recipients with impairments toward employment; and what key federal efforts are under way to facilitate TANF agencies' efforts to help this populations become employed. GAO researchers found that 38% of TANF recipients in 1999 reported an impairment severe enough that the individual was unable to or needed help to perform in one or more activities (e.g. walking upstairs); 29% of TANF adults reported a mental impairment (severe and nonsevere). They also found that while counties reported screening for impairments, the screenings rely heavily on recipient self-report, which may not ensure the identification of some impairments that could interfere with employment. GAO recommends that HHS coordinate with other key federal agencies and departments, particularly Labor and Education to make sure that federal resources, research, and technical assistance related to moving persons with impairments towards employment are widely disseminated (authors).

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 12258

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: **Welfare Reform: Outcomes for TANF Recipients with Impairments.**

Source: Washington, DC: United States General Accounting Office, 2002. (Report: 33 pages)

Abstract: This report discusses the extent to which recipients with impairments exit TANF, compared with recipients without impairments, and the extent to which people with impairments are employed after leaving TANF, compared with people without impairments. The authors analyzed self-reported data from the Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). Also reviewed were findings of other studies to supplement the SIPP data (authors).

Available From: United State General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, <http://www.gao.gov>.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 7522

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: Social Security Disability Insurance: Multiple Factors Affect Beneficiaries' Ability to Return to Work.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 1998. (Report: 40 pages)

Abstract: Recently, Members of Congress and advocates for people with disabilities have proposed various reforms, including tax incentives, to help improve return-to-work outcomes for beneficiaries receiving Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). To provide more information about the experiences of working beneficiaries, the General Accounting Office interviewed 69 people who were receiving SSDI and working in the Washington, D.C., Atlanta, or San Francisco metropolitan areas. In general, the beneficiaries who were interviewed achieved a range of work outcomes, despite indicating significant limitations or difficulties associated with their impairments. The availability of worksite-based health insurance appeared to differentiate respondents who plan to leave the rolls in the future from respondents who plan to stay.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 8858

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: Social Security Reform: Potential Effects on SSA's Disability Programs and Beneficiaries.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 2001. (Report: 56 pages)

Abstract: This report analyzes the potential effects of Social Security reform options on the solvency of the Disability Insurance (DI) trust fund and on the benefits disabled beneficiaries receive and the likely contribution that individual proposal provisions would make to these effects. It also examines the potential implications of Social Security reform for the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, which provides significant income support for low income individuals with disabilities. The authors concluded that most of the individual proposal provisions, such as those that call for general revenue transfers or benefit reductions, would have a positive effect on the solvency of the DI trust fund by increasing revenues and decreasing costs, respectively. Only a few provisions, such as those redirecting payroll taxes to individual accounts, which would reduce trust fund revenues, and those establishing a minimum benefit, which would increase some benefits and therefore costs, would have a negative effect on the DI trust fund (authors).

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Order #: 8836

Authors: United States General Accounting Office.

Title: SSA Disability: Other Programs May Provide Lessons for Improving Return-to-Work Efforts.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. General Accounting Office, 2001. (Report: 54 pages)

Abstract: This report adds to previous testimony on the practices of the private sector and other countries for helping people with disabilities return to work. The focus of the report is on three key areas: (1) the eligibility assessment process; (2) work incentives; and (3) staffing practices. These three elements are described for three U.S. private sector disability insurers and for three other countries' social insurance systems and compared with the practices of both the Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income programs.

Available From: U.S. General Accounting Office, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20548, (202) 512-4800, www.gao.gov.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 3739

Authors: Volberg, R.A.

Title: Homeless Mentally Ill Persons, Entitlements and Representative Payees.

Source: Delmar, NY: Policy Research Associates, Inc., 1991. (Report: 18 pages)

Abstract: This report outlines some of the issues faced by homeless people who have mental illness and their advocates in managing entitlements. It first addresses the present system, from the perspective of the individual beneficiary and from the perspective of the representative payee. The discussion then turns to the problem of coordinating benefits within a fragmented service network and the need for research and information in this area. The Social Security Administration (SSA) is discussed in detail (author).

Available From: Policy Research Associates, 345 Delaware Ave., Delmar, NY 12054, (518) 439-7415, www.prainc.com.

Order #: 11834

Authors: Waller, M., Berube, A.

Title: Timing Out: Long-Term Welfare Caseloads in Large Cities and Counties.

Source: Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution, 2002. (Report: 16 pages)

Abstract: This report analyzing caseload data as of the end of 2001 establishes for the first time that long-term welfare cases are located disproportionately in urban areas, in some places to a tremendous degree. While only 33 percent of state residents live in the urban counties surveyed, those counties were home to over half of their state's welfare cases facing a federal time limit, and an astounding 71 percent of their state's long-term cases facing the time limit. This report concludes with a set of national policy recommendations for welfare reauthorization that address the needs of welfare recipients in the places where they live, and that recognize while many long-term recipients face significant barriers to work, others are working but not earning enough to leave welfare.

Available From: The Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20036, (202) 797-6000, <http://www.brookings.edu/dybdocroot/es/urban/publications/wallertimelimits.pdf>

Order #: 8705

Authors: Watkins, K.E., Podus, D.

Title: The Impact of Terminating Disability Benefits for Substance Abusers on Substance Use and Treatment Participation.

Source: Psychiatric Services 51(11): 1371-1372, 1381, 2000. (Journal Article: 3 pages)

Abstract: In March 1996, Congress passed Public Law 104-121, which terminated Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits to individuals disabled primarily by drug addiction and alcoholism. This article examines the impact of the legislative change on substance abuse treatment participation among persons whose SSI and SSDI benefits were continued and among those whose benefits had been terminated. A sample of 400 SSI recipients were in Los Angeles County were selected who were classified as disabled primarily by drug addiction and alcoholism. At 12-month follow-up, substance use had decreased from 75% at baseline to 63% among respondents whose benefits were continued, but was essentially unchanged (76% and 75%) among those whose benefits were terminated.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 10091

Authors: Watkins, K.E., Podus, D., Lombardi, E., Burnam, A.

Title: Changes in Mental Health and Service Use After Termination of SSI Benefits.

Source: Psychiatric Services 52(9): 1210-1215, 2001 (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for a substance abuse disability were terminated by federal legislation as of January 1, 1997. This study examined the changes in mental health and in the use of mental health services two years after the legislation was implemented among individuals who had been receiving benefits under this classification. Contrary to expectations, the mental health status of individuals who had been receiving benefits for a substance abuse disability did not worsen after benefits were terminated. Local safety nets and reclassification under another disability may have mitigated the effects of the policy change. The results of this study underscore the need for longitudinal data to inform policy decisions (authors).

Order #: 8146

Authors: Watkins, K.E., Wells, K.B., McLellan, A.T.

Title: Termination of Social Security Benefits Among Los Angeles Recipients Disabled by Substance Abuse.

Source: Psychiatric Services 50(7): 914-918, 1999. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: A 1996 federal law terminated Social Security disability benefits to individuals disabled primarily by drug addiction and alcoholism. This article examines the appeal and recertification of benefits in Los Angeles County. Data for 2,001 receiving Social Security disability benefits in 1996 because of substance abuse disability were obtained from the referral and monitoring agency, where each person had completed the Addiction Severity Index (ASI). Administrative data were obtained from the Social Security Administration. Logistic analyses examined the relationship between the severity of addiction and appeal and recertification status. Appeals were made by 80% if the 506 recipients with high severity scores, 72% of 510 recipients with medium scores, and 74% of 985 recipients with low scores. Recertification rates were 60%, 45%, and 47%, respectively.

Order #: 10074

Authors: Watlov Phillips, S., Whyte, H.

Title: Reform Welfare Reform: Families Still Poor and Experiencing Homelessness.

Source: Shelterforce (118): 22-23, 2001. (Journal Article: 2 pages)

Abstract: In 2002, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) will be up for reauthorization. In preparation for the debate surrounding it, a report has been released entitled "Welfare to What? Part II: Laying the Groundwork for the 2002 Congressional TANF Reauthorization Debate." The report provides an overview of problems that continue to affect low-income families' stability, economic viability, health, and well being. It covers employment and wages, housing and homelessness, education and job skills, loss of income, transportation, health and childcare, domestic violence, income supports, and privatization of services. This article summarizes and discusses the key recommendations of this report. Sections discussed include "Give Reform Time to Work", "Support Work", "Support Education for Better Work", and "Reward Work".

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 6270

Authors: Wiseman, M.

Title: Welfare Reform in the United States: A Background Paper.

Source: Housing Policy Debate 7(4): 595-648, 1996. (Journal Article: 53 pages)

Abstract: This article reviews recent welfare policy history in the United States, surveys the major issues in welfare reform, outlines Democratic and Republican proposals, and summarizes the new legislation. The author explains the development that has produced a major change in the U.S. welfare system in 1996: the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. The author contends that the act's changes in federal funding for public assistance, coupled with state responses to new fiscal incentives that the legislation creates, are likely to increase over time, rather than reduce, the federal role in welfare finance, if not its administration. The author concludes that despite reduced federal regulation of public assistance, the federal government still has an important role in program evaluation (author).

Order #: 8407

Authors: Wood, M., Locke, G.P., Shulevitz, B.H., Porcare, D.M., Nolden, S., Amendolia, J.

Title: From Welfare to Work: Using HUD's Programs to Help Families in Transition.

Source: Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Policy Development and Research 1999. (Report: 122 pages)

Abstract: The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 has brought sweeping changes in welfare programs and policies. The Act replaces a 65-year entitlement to assistance for eligible families with Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) block grant to the states. While the block grant allows considerable discretion at the state level, it is clearly intended to help move welfare clients into work and off assistance (with some exceptions), it also requires adult recipients to find work within two years of receiving assistance. To reinforce the work participation rule, states must meet specific levels of active client employment or face fiscal penalties. This report is organized in two parts. The first highlights some common themes that recur through multiple programs. The second part presents detailed profiles of individual programs (authors).

Available From: HUD USER, PO Box 23268, Washington, DC 20026, (800) 245-2691, www.huduser.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 11536

Authors: Wright, D.J., Gould, I., Schill, M.H.

Title: Community Development Corporations and Welfare Reform: Linkages, Roles, and Impacts.

Source: Albany, NY: Rockefeller Institute of Government, State University of New York, and Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, New York University School of Law, 2001. (Report: 140 pages)

Abstract: This report focuses on the early impact of welfare reform on community development corporations (CDCs) in six cities: Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New York, and San Francisco. The CDCs in Chicago include Hispanic Housing Development Corporation, Woodlawn Preservation and Investment Corporation, Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation, and People's Reinvestment and Development Effort (PRIDE). The study examines the financial condition of CDC housing, quality of life in surrounding neighborhoods, the management practices of CDCs, and programmatic changes designed to provide social services or economic development opportunities for residents of CDC housing. The report indicates that welfare reform appears to have had little impact (either positive or negative) on CDCs. Similarly, the response of CDCs to welfare reform has been limited. The authors suggest several possible reasons for these findings. It is possible that the full effects of welfare reform have not been felt; we may begin to see more of an impact as the five-year time limits take hold. Alternatively, the financial status and programmatic range of CDC housing and nonhousing activities may be fairly insulated from the effects of welfare reform. The share of CDC tenants who receive TANF appears to be relatively small, and the majority of those who do also receive Section 8 subsidies or benefit indirectly from other project-based financial set-asides that will buffer the CDC from any loss of benefits or income (authors).

Available From: Rockefeller Institute of Government, 411 State Street, Albany, NY 12203-1003, (518) 443-5522, http://www.rockinst.org/publications/pubs_and_reports.html

Order #: 8196

Authors: Zedlewski, S.R., Holcomb, P.A., Duke, A.E.

Title: Cash Assistance in Transition: The Story of 13 States.

Source: Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 1999. (Report: 51 pages)

Abstract: This report describes the approaches to cash assistance in place in 13 sample states on the eve of the passage of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), focusing on how far states already had departed from federal Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). The authors discuss early state responses to the new legislation, highlighting trends and patterns in policy emphases and choices made in light of states' historical approaches to welfare. The analysis shows that, for the most part, the diversity among states' cash assistance programs continues to increase under TANF.

Available From: The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037, (877) 847-7377, www.urban.org.

Benefits and Entitlements

Order #: 3692

Authors: Zlotnick, C., Robertson, M.J.

Title: Sources of Income Among Homeless Adults With Major Mental Disorders or Substance Use Disorders.

Source: Psychiatric Services 47(2): 147-151, 1996. (Journal Article: 5 pages)

Abstract: This study documented sources and amounts of income among homeless adults with serious mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders. It examined whether income varied by diagnostic group and whether those who received case management were more likely to have income. Income from entitlement benefits, formal- and informal-sector employment, and other sources was documented by diagnostic group. Respondents with serious mental illnesses, substance use disorders, or dual disorders were no less likely than those with no disorders to report income from entitlement benefits or formal-sector employment. Among those with serious mental illnesses, substance use disorders, or dual disorders, respondents who had received recent case management services were four to nine times more likely to report entitlement income. The results support other research and anecdotal findings on the importance of case management in obtaining entitlement income among homeless adults with serious mental illnesses and/or substance use disorders (authors).

Order #: 8089

Authors: Zlotnick, C., Robertson, M.J., Lahiff, M.

Title: Getting Off the Streets: Economic Resources and Residential Exits from Homelessness.

Source: Journal of Community Psychology 27(2): 209-224, 1999. (Journal Article: 16 pages)

Abstract: This article examined what factors lead to stable housing among a homeless population. Based on a 15-month study, the following variables demonstrated an association with residential stability in a countywide probability sample of 397 homeless adults: female gender, a history of less than one-year homelessness, absence of a health problem that limited work ability, entitlement-benefit income, and use of subsidized housing. Analyses show that two forms of public support -- entitlement income and subsidized housing -- were the most important variables associated with exits from homelessness into stable housing. Homeless adults with substance use disorders were more likely than other homeless adults to obtain unstable housing. Homeless adults with mental disorders were no less likely than other homeless adults to report stable housing (authors).

Order #: 7579

Authors: Zlotnik, C., Robertson, M.J., Lahiff, M.

Title: A Longitudinal Perspective on Entitlement Income Among Homeless Adults.

Source: Psychiatric Services 49(8): 1039-1042, 1998. (Journal Article: 4 pages)

Abstract: In this article, sources of entitlement income were examined in a sample of homeless adults to determine whether certain subgroups more consistently obtain entitlement income and are more likely to continue receiving it over time. From a baseline sample of 564 homeless residents of Alameda County, Calif., 397 were interviewed at both five- and 15-month follow-ups. Information was obtained on income received from public sources in the 30 days before each interview and on demographic and psychiatric characteristics. At baseline, fewer than half of the respondents were receiving any entitlement income. The benefits of almost half of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children and general assistance recipients were terminated during the 15-month period. Respondents who continued receiving entitlement income over the 15-month period were more likely to be black, to be women alone or with children, to have a family history of receiving welfare, and to report a disability. Those with dual disorders were six times more likely than others to have their benefits terminated. The authors conclude that entitlement income is tenuous for many homeless adults, particularly for those with dual diagnoses (authors).

